

# The DC Gazette

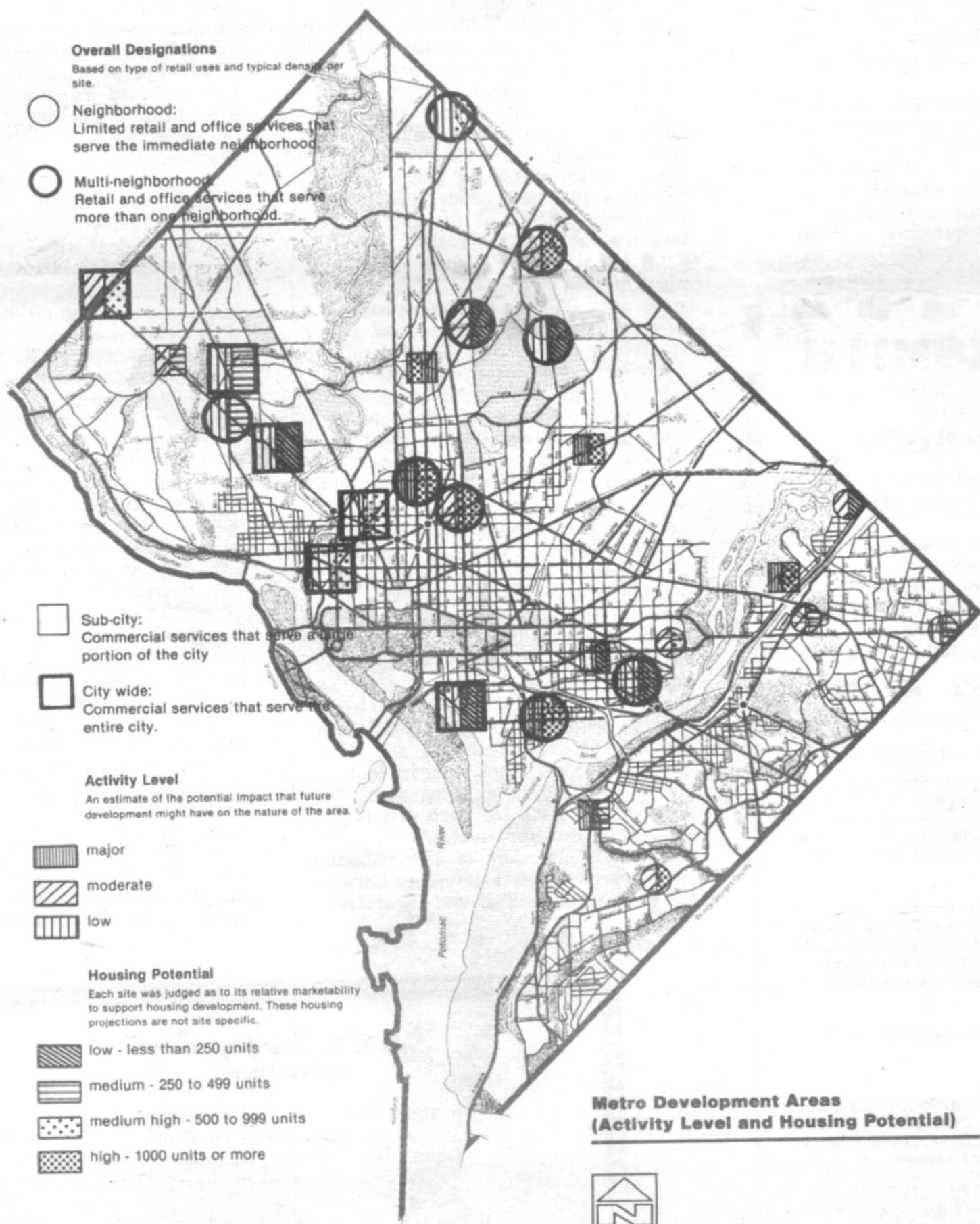
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## WARNING! DC SPOTTED FEVER

If your home or business is located under or near one of the squares of circles below, contact your local politician, community association or citywide action group immediately. You may be suffering some of the symptoms of comprehensive planitis, a new disease reportedly spreading in the city. For more details, see inside this issue.



# A COMPREHENSIVE MESS

**Sam Smith**

For years community groups and activists have been badgering city officials for a comprehensive plan. Last month, city planning chief James Gibson released something that looks like a comprehensive plan, weighs as much as a comprehensive plan should weigh and even calls itself a comprehensive plan.

Despite such appearances, however, it is not a comprehensive plan. It is, instead, a frustrating mishmash made up of largely of useful and interesting statistics about the past and present and useless and deceptive ambiguities about the future. As a plan, it is a professional shame, a political scam, and should be outlawed by even the most permissive truth-in-packaging regulations.

Even Gibson says that, despite the title, it is not a comprehensive plan. It is, he claims, only a staff draft, thereby, in his mind, justifying the key omissions of usable information on proposed zoning, density, and planning policies. The key question — what these garbled, mystical phrases will

mean when put into the action, is left unanswered for a chapter entitled "Implementation," which a footnote tells us, "will be developed following the completion of the community review."

But the community review of what? How can the community review something that is neither so much right or wrong as it is obscure and meaningless?

The basic questions: whether the Barry administration intends to plan for protection as well as continued exploitation, whether it intends to save the best of the city or merely screw it up further, whether it intends to favor natural and sensible growth as opposed to more public-primed incubation of concrete and steel tumors in the body of the city—these questions remain unanswered, procrastinated into a short review period during which the public will be told to watch both hands closely, but will never know how the cards got into the hat with the rabbit.

Worse, the issue highest in the mind of many community groups — what does the Barry administration want to do to our neighborhood, is treated as a mere matter of detail. Apparently, this essential matter will only as an afterthought be part of the plan. Says Gibson in his cover letter, "Detailed small-area plans, based on the city-wide policy plan will be produced by the City government and community-interest groups together over the next several years."

It is difficult to quite know how to deal with someone who wants to use the phrase "staff draft" as a synonym for a work that tells you reams of what you didn't ask him and little about what you did. If Gibson had been asked to produce a draft of the US Constitution he probably would have provided the delegates with a ten inch file of colonial housing and demographic statistics, a redundant and evasive preamble, along with strategy proposals for each article along the lines of "develop a contextual framework of administration providing appropriate interplay between the executive, judicial and legislative branches."

The poor man undoubtedly would have thought he had said something. The delegates would have undoubtedly considered his assistance at best superfluous, at worst, a sad waste of public monies.

It would be comforting to think that the failure of the "staff draft" to address the major issues it was supposed to address was a mere act of incompetence. Unfortunately, watching the Barry administration, the planning office in particular, suggests a certain amount of intent. A game is being played and those citizens who get suckered into even discussing these inanities parading as plans will do so at their own risk. Dealing with deliberate ambiguities as though they had real meaning is like attempting to understand a mad man by adopting his language and thought patterns. You do not bring the man closer to sanity, you only become slightly mad yourself.

As a first step, therefore, citizens wishing to deal with the comprehensive plan should refuse to do so until they are told what the hell these people are talking about. Those who feel, because of years of perusing planning gibberish, that they are qualified to discern meaning are especially warned.

Turn, for example, to page 98, wherein the policies and strategies for what the city calls "conservation areas" are listed. Conservation areas are those neighborhoods "characterized by sound housing conditions and good to excellent neighborhood quality" and also, judging from the map on page 105, those with the most political clout. Conservation areas might also be described as neighborhoods where developers have to move carefully, as opposed to "enhancement areas" where they can get away with a lot, and "redirection areas" where almost anything goes and probably will.

One of the strategies for conservation areas is to "strictly enforce housing, building and zoning laws." On the other hand, other strategies include "expand the use and scope of existing plan review procedures such as R5A site plan review, Large Tract Review and

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Deadline for editorial and advertising matter:  
15th of the month.

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Planned Unit Developments" and "designate locations where the use of plan review procedures are appropriate for future development in ward, neighborhood and small area plans."

If you meld these two strategies together, it translates roughly as "strictly enforce housing, building and zoning laws except where we don't want to."

Or turn to the terribly casual treatment on page 237 of one of the city's real problems, overcrowding and bad conditions in its penal institutions.

Under "findings," the planners lay out the facts: an expected increase in overcrowding, the highest rate of incarceration of any comparable jurisdiction in the country, longer sentences for prisoners, bad physical conditions, no DC facility for women offenders and a need estimated by the Department of Corrections at \$85-90 million for new facilities.

The planners then state the "issues," to wit:

- "Constraints on the District's capital borrowing make it doubtful that the proposed new correctional facilities can be built."

- "While the trend in prison sentences is on the upswing, factors which influence that trend are subject to change, raising questions as to the long-term need to expand prison facilities greatly."

All this, at god knows what expense, leads the planners to develop a "policy:"

"It is the policy of the District of Columbia to provide appropriate

facilities and correction treatment for sentenced offenders."

Unlike those sections that will be read more closely by developers, there is a not a single strategy to suggest how such a policy might be carried out.

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It is not fair to imply that there is nothing of use in these documents. The statistical data, especially that in the ward notebooks, is a major scholarly contribution to Washington and neighborhood research. The problem is that Gibson and company were asked for a plan not materials for a dissertation.

It is also true that buried in the document are some specific and important policy proposals. On page 106, for example, the city proposes to adopt a housing policy that heretofore only the Gazette has been raucous enough to suggest:

"Inventory single-family neighborhoods to determine where accessory apartment units in single-family homes could be allowed and develop standards and regulations to permit such use."

Relaxing the zoning code to permit such apartments could be the cheapest and quickest route to decent and moderate housing in the city.

There is also, if you read carefully, some hint of what the place will look like. A map, (reproduced on the cover of this issue), for example, shows 25 "Metro Development Areas." They are, however, identified by equal

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sized circles and squares that presumably are not, as they say, "site specific," but under or near which a surprising number of residents might find their current residences.

Whether these circles and squares represent in the inner or outer perimeters of the development areas is a matter that may be revealed to us prior to final city council action on the plan. But don't count on it.

In any case, the following exchange with Gibson at the news conference announcing the pseudo-draft, or crypto-plan or whatever, may be revealing.

Gibson had mentioned an interest in increasing commercial development along what he considers the out-moded street-car strips like Wisconsin Avenue and Georgia Avenue. Whether the current neighbors of such strips find them out-moded or a rather pleasant convenience is a matter for another day, but the question was raised as to where the impetus for what the planners call "nodding" (development of commercial centers of uncertain size at various locations) came from. Said Gibson: The Wisconsin Avenue Corridor Committee has raised it as an issue. Gibson was then asked whether WACC had asked for greater commercial zoning. Replied Gibson: "No, but certain developers have."

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Citizens would be advised to treat this document with the care of an unidentifiable piece of tubular metal found in the streets of Beirut. The plan as it now exists is neither discussable nor negotiable. It is filled to brim with phrasoids — utterances that appear to have the character of meaning but, in fact, are artificial imitations of meaning, either meaning anything or nothing at all.

The plan as it now exists should be simply rejected until it is given some substance and integrity.

Whether the Barry administration has either the competence or inclination to provide such a document is unclear. Which points to a deeper problem involving this effort.

We live in a town that has, through historical circumstances, developed an approach to planning that is applied with designs of professionalism and impartiality. Most other communities recognize the essentially political nature of planning and zoning decisions, typically through the legislative body, such as the council, either making the the decisions or controlling them.

There is no decision, in fact, that is more rightfully a political one — in the best sense of the word — then who will be allowed to build what in a community.

We consistently deceive ourselves into thinking that there is some non-partisan way to accomplish this and our medium is "expertise." Expert planners, impartial members of a zoning commission and so forth.

The phony impartiality is illustrated by our willingness to allow the mayor's own political agent, the planning chief, to simultaneously advise the supposedly non-political zoning commission and the mayor.

It would be far healthier if we accepted the political nature of planning and zoning and gave the responsibility where it should be, the

city council. Then citizen and developer alike would not have to engage in this silly charade of appearing to be talking about aesthetics or design when they're really talking about equity and power.

Unfortunately, our charter and the inclination of Congress militate strongly against such an effective reform. But even for the present, we can at least recognize the political nature of the business.

#### REAL ELITISTS DON'T OPPOSE \$300,000 HOMES

Those in the fight over the comprehensive plan should be prepared to have their positions substantially misrepresented by advocates.

The Tregaron affair has produced two exquisite examples. The first is from Jim Gibson who described opponents of the Tregaron development as having "a desire that the property become public open space or a historic park reserve."

Either Gibson hadn't read the opponents' alternate plans for the estate and listened to their repeated public support of an improved PUD, or he hopes no one else has so he can get away with such misrepresentations.

Another example of this disreputable genre appeared in Benjamin Forgey's muddled review of the matter last summer where he said that "the citizens' outcry \*\*\* also can be interpreted as a preposterous exercise in snobbery and nostalgia."

I hesitated to use the Forgey example because the fellow is so confused as to who's for what (including himself).

Earlier in the piece, he refers to the "understandable disaffection of many of [Tregaron's] long-time neighbors in Cleveland Park and Woodley Park." Are these the same nostalgic snobs he mentions later?

He also cites the Rockefeller Estate as being "changed for the better by the analysis of Richard Ridley, an architect hired by neighbors." This, although he fails to mention it, is the same Richard Ridley hired by Tregaron's neighbors to accomplish a similar task. Finally, Forgey says "unquestionably there is a need for further reduction in the number of units and the amount of paved area." Which is the same argument that the nostalgic snobs make.

I know it's confusing but you just have to learn to live with it. The assumption is that if you don't favor the latest exotica from the world of planning, you are against progress, mired in the past, and probably an elitist to boot. In case Jim Gibson tries this line out on you, you might want to remind him that people who design cities they admit won't be hospitable to unskilled workers shouldn't throw Gucci-Pucci pebbles at others.

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We can remember that Jim Gibson is first and foremost a political assistant of the mayor. The document before us is first and foremost the political platform of the mayor. Fortunately, the city council gets to review the document. Fortunate not because the council will necessarily do right, but because we can hope the council at least will understand that something that is going to have the force of law should be written with the precision of law rather than with the obfuscation, evasiveness and ambiguity of the present document. Fortunate, not because the council will have any better luck deciphering the planning office's phrasoids than we will, but because it may understand what we think of them.

In short, we should recognize that in the forthcoming battle over the comprehensive plan, we — for once — have the opportunity to apply pressure on real politicians rather than on false prophets and professionals of plans and policies. We should use this opportunity to make this pressure felt. We do not have to waste a lot of time with the planning office's various review charades. Our most important potential allies are the members of the city council. Beginning right now we should let them know that we consider the plan both an insult to our intelligence and a threat to our communities. We can afford to live without a comprehensive plan for a few more years; it would be extremely foolhardy to try to live with this one.

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## FREE PARKING

The civic calendar published by the League of Women Voters of the District of Columbia is now available for \$2.50 each at the League office, Room 718 Dupont Circle Building, and at other outlets throughout the city.

In addition to noting important holidays, the opening and closing of District schools, dates of important elections and when taxes are due, the calendar gives registration and voting information and lists names and telephone numbers of elected officials. The calendar also carries a service directory of city government telephone numbers and tells where and when the City Council meets and the dates of District of Columbia Days in the House of Representatives.

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The Watha T. Daniel Branch Library will be holding a series of workshops entitled, "College Bound." The workshops are for high school seniors or persons wishing to enter college in September 1983. All workshops will be held at the Watha T. Daniel Branch Library, 8th Street and Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., from 7:00-9:00 P.M.

Representatives from the following schools will be on hand to answer questions concerning student recruitment.

November 10 Howard University  
November 17 George Washington University  
December 13 University of Virginia  
January 12 Georgetown University  
February 19 University of the District of Columbia  
If possible, students should be accompanied by their parents or guardians. Info: Calvin Clark, 727-1228.

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# YOUR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN IN ACTION: A PREVIEW

## Downtown

Since the comprehensive plan staff draft is not particularly useful in revealing just what the planners and the Barry administration are up to, it is worth taking a look at one element of the plan that has been presented in some detail, that covering downtown.

City Hall appears intent on pursuing their dream of more than doubling office space in downtown undeterred by such factors as the stunning lack of demand for office units. If the Barry administration and the Boys in the Board have their way, however, it will be sitting there waiting anyway.

What they're after is 11 million square feet of office space, 7700 new hotel rooms, 8300 new residential units plus 200,000 more square feet of retail space and 430,000 more square feet of space for the arts. About 100,000 more people would theoretically come to work in downtown DC every day, a 73% increase. To accomplish all this, much of what remains of traditional downtown Washington would be torn down, to wit: 3.4 million square feet of retail space, two million square feet of office space, five hundred hotel rooms and one thousand residential units.

Put another way, if you were to leave Washington tomorrow and then return upon completion of the plan you'd only recognize about a third of downtown.

One of the first questions you might wish to raise about the plan is whether you believe the judgement of planning office and the downtown committee is superior to that of the collective wisdom of a century and a half of less artificial growth. Many people feel that downtown is changing fast enough as it is, and not particularly for the better. Despite the outside chance that we are dealing with plans of profound precience, one wonders whether the planners are up to the task of completely rebuilding downtown in their image. The planners will argue that if you don't like their plan you are against progress, which is a little like arguing that someone who is against excessive additives is against food.

It is also worth noting that despite a massive increase in office space there will be only a minimal increase in retail facilities. We are, in effect, proposing millions of additional square feet for suburban commuters, who do precious little to help the city's tax base, but are proposing only a few hundred thousand more square feet of space in which they can spend their dollars before they hustle back to

Falls Church. This may reflect a realistic assessment of the market potential, but if so it also reflects the marginal nature of bringing all those new workers to town.

It sometimes strikes me that downtown is like a patient on too many medications. We've got the place doped up, injected, inhaling, swallowing three times after meals and being intravenously goosed, and it's still complaining of splitting headaches. Maybe the cures are part of the problem. There seems little doubt that the downtown Washington business community is one of the most drug-dependent commercial groups you'll find in the country. The spirit of free enterprise, of corporate initiative, of marketing strategy, is virtually nonexistent. It can't sell a dishrag without going to its favorite doctor, City Hall, for another pill.

Further, the latest downtown plan is, in fact, merely another urban renewal project growing out of the same ignominious tradition that was heralded by the Southwest debacle. Sure, the mechanisms, techniques, politics and financing are different, but the underlying goals and the arrogance that leads politicians and business leaders to pursue them remain the same. Once again, they are attempting to show us what God would do if he had the money.

Of course, in this same tradition, there are no honest cost-benefit analyses to show whether the city will gain or lose from this transformation, whether this is the right location for a transformation, or whether the mix of land use is right.

A priori, a priori, a priori. Into the Valley of Debt rode the DC 600,000. Remember the Metro, the Convention Center, the freeways, the downtown urban renewal plans? Yea, verily, remember Streets for People? Just when does the revitalization of downtown end? When does the public money stop flowing in, the deals stop being made, the weak and the small stop being evicted? Will the Board of Trade ever be satisfied?

Okay. Let's assume for a moment that the downtown plan is right. One hundred thousand more people coming into the eastern part of downtown will be just wonderful. Can we do it? The committee makes it seem as though we can by the simple expedient of assuming that seventy percent of the workforce will come by Metro, that Metro will decrease headway between trains and that it will run eight-car trains.

But what are the current facts? First, that less than 20% of the workforce currently in the plan area arrives by subway based on actual exit

counts of the stops in question. Secondly, although many others come by bus, this is irrelevant for planning purposes since bus service to downtown is being cut back not increased. Q.E.D. unless there is a revolutionary change in the way people go to work and a massive increase in Metro service the plan implicitly contemplates tens of thousands of new cars on downtown streets at rushhour. But since the plan explicitly declares that seventy percent will use public transit and thus only contemplates parking for thirty percent, there won't be any room for all these cars. We'll be left with angry motorists, furious Metro passengers and frustrated building leasors wondering why they didn't go to Crystal City in the first place. In short, by failing to deal frankly with the transportation implications of the plans, the planners haven't created a dream, but a potential nightmare.

## Tregaron

While the downtown plan is just a plan, the city's actions in the Tregaron affair are dismal reality. In the article on the comprehensive plan in this issue, you will find reference to an apparent ambiguity in the proposed approach to conserving neighborhoods. At Tregaron, there is nothing ambiguous. The Barry administration, represented by planning chief Jim Gibson, has come out full-square for the developer. Tregaron represents a classic case of the potentially useful concept of the planned unit development being used as a side door to increased zoning and density. Just because PUDs have been used to improve designs in some places doesn't mean that they can't be abusive as well. At the Rockefeller, Hillendale and Phillips tracts, for example, the end result of the process was a 5 to 20% reduction in the number of units as opposed to what was permissible as a theoretical matter of right. At Tregaron, on the other hand, the PUD would result in a 41% increase in units.

Further, the plan is one of the most egregious examples of a city ignoring state-of-the-art good sense in planning for watersheds and slopes. Traffic and density considerations are brushed over lightly. And joining the developer in this arrogant request to change the zoning for no perceivable public benefit, is your city administration. In a 19-page apologia for the developer, Gibson says "the subject site may be considered in a transitional location — near to existing uses of low to medium density housing, but

also near to elevator apartment houses, commercial services and the Cleveland Park Metrorail station within easy walking distance. A vacant site such as the subject site, located within the described land use pattern and the very high accessibility represented by Metrorail is normally proposed for significantly higher densities or intensities of use than is proposed here. "

In other words, if you live within walking distance of a subway stop, don't count on the city government — with or without a comprehensive plan — to defend current zoning.

This is not paranoia. The fact is that the only reason Tregaron is being developed at all is because the good land in DC has been largely used up. Now the city is doing what it can to let developers use bad land such as sites with excessive slopes. The next step, already being worked on, is to reduce the size of sites that could be used for a PUD, allowing spot zoning to be applied to small tracts, even those already built upon. In other words, through a process of attrition, the city is doing away with many of the normal protections of zoning.

This is a threat of the first magnitude, all the more so because it is not generally recognized.

The fact that the city administration would back the upzoning of Tregaron in the face of extensive community opposition and the lack of any countervailing public benefit is an important sign to heed. It is dramatic evidence of why the Barry administration can not be trusted to replan this city, comprehensively or in bits and pieces.

The National Park Service has completed its draft development concept plan and environmental assessment for East Potomac Park, the 329-acre peninsula designated as a public park in 1897.

The plan includes two alternatives for the future development of the park, bordered on two sides by the Potomac River and the Washington Channel.

Under Alternative B, recommended by the National Park Service, the present 36-hole golf course would be reduced to 27 holes. The reduction of the nine-hole area would open up about 45 acres to be converted into six ballfields, a children's play area and a picnic area.

Also included in the plan would be the construction of a courtesy dock on the channel side of the park for temporary docking by persons visiting Washington by boat. The dock would provide a place to tie up for two to three hours. A fishing pier would be built adjacent to the dock.

In order to eliminate much of the traffic congestion that East Potomac Park experiences, a new Y-shaped access road is proposed from Buckeye Drive to the new field area and children's picnic area.

About 400 parking spaces, primarily in the area of the ball fields and picnic area, will be constructed as an addition to the 1,750 existing spaces.

The "teahouse," now used by the National Park Service's Ecological Services Laboratory, would be converted to public use, similar to how it appeared as a small teahouse in the 1930's. Plans would call for light food and beverage service.

Long-range plans also include a model boat and skating pond to be built in concert with any future legislated garden memorial and pedestrian connections to link East Potomac Park with Maine Avenue and the Southeast Waterfront.

If approved, completion of the plans would take around 10 years to complete at an estimated cost of \$1.2 million.

If approved, initial proposals could begin as early as spring of 1983.

For copies of the plans, write Superintendent-National Capital Parks-Central, 900 Ohio Drive, SW, Washington, D.C. 20242, Attention: East Potomac Park DCP.

# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

## East of the River

The Church of Jesus Christ has asked the BZA for permission to use part of its premises for a pre-school that could handle 24 children.

The city has applied for a \$122,000 grant from the federal government to develop a full-service mini-supermarket at the Fort Davis Shopping Center.

The DC Public Schools have applied to the US Department of Education for a quarter-million dollar grant to continue the Follow-Through education program for low-income students in Southeast Washington. The program would be housed in the Birney Elementary School.

Neighborhood Commission 8A has joined the task force on Congress Heights economic development. Commission chair William Larkins wrote city officials asking them to deny the KKK a rally permit.

The city council has voted support of the construction of the Metro F route through Anacostia and urged that funds earmarked for the route not be used for any other rapid rail project.

## Capitol Hill

The city is planning to provide supercans for the area around the DC Jail.

The city plans to assign a parking ticket writer to Capitol Hill's commercial strip with special attention to cars which block driveways and park too close to intersections.

Neighborhood Commission 6B has urged the city to improve the condition of the park at 13th & E SE.

There are increasing reports of prostitution on the Hill, with community groups pressuring the police to take more action. Points of concern include 8th St., 15th & Mass. SE, and 11th & C SE. One neighborhood commissioner notes that he has observed additional police patrols recently in areas of concern, but that the prostitutes, mostly male, were so familiar with patrol routines and techniques that little was accomplished by the police.

The Capitol Hill Art Workshop's Tenth Anniversary Party will be held November 20 at 730 pm. A raffle will include two round-trip airline tickets to anywhere in the continental US, donated by Republic Airlines. Info: 547-6839.

New members of Neighborhood Commission 6A are Ellen Reiss, Suzanne McQueen Caldwell, Paul Amra, Dorothy Williams and Kathy Downey.

Some community residents have expressed concern about the condition of the park at 15th Street, Massachusetts and South Carolina Aves. They say the park is frequented by numerous vagrants, is heavily littered with papers, bottles and other trash, and is not kept clean.

Neighborhood Commission 6B reports some progress on improving conditions at the Ellen Wilson project. There are still problems with hot water, but the window and bathroom installations have been completed and the kitchen rehabilitation is almost finished.

There are complaints from users of the Potomac Gardens Recreation Center that the city is proceeding with plans to brick up windows and make other changes opposed by area residents.

21 Capitol Hill Hospital employees can now bring their children to work, thanks to the hospital's new child care center.

Capitol Hill Hospital is the first hospital in the District of Columbia to provide a child care program directly in its facility.

The center was established with the guidance of Ann Dortch, director of the Capitol East Children's Center.

"It's going to be fantastic. I am really tickled," Dortch says. The center's philosophy, she said, is to serve as "an extension of the home." Teachers will work closely with parents to tailor developmental programs to each child. Children will have "play with a purpose," she adds.

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## Near NE

Two Near NE residents, Frank Milner and Lorraine Alexander, have been honored by the city council for their services to the community. Alexander has served as president of the H Street Business Community and chair of the H Street Local Development Corporation since the early seventies. Milner, assistant pastor of St. Phillips Baptist Church, has long been active in NE civic affairs. Although Milner is 82, his pastor, Rev. Andre Owens, describes him as "the first person to arrive and the last person to leave the sanctuary on nearly a daily basis."

The Zoning Commission has approved a mixed use planned unit

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development on the south side of H Street between 6th & 7th NE. The plan provides for 96 living units, 30,000 square feet of office space and 115,000 square feet of neighborhood shopping. The shopping area will include a bank, clinic, junior department store and a restaurant. The height will not exceed 81 feet and there will be garage parking for 281 cars. Neighborhood Commission 2C did not submit a written recommendation on the rezoning, although Charles Richardson, representing the commission's economic development committee, opposed the proposal due to not having enough information about. The H Street PAC supported the PUD as did seven citizen witnesses. Six citizen witnesses opposed the plan expressing concern over the height and bulk of the development.

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A plan worked out between HUD and Hechinger Enterprises will allow the Northeast developer to funnel repayments of a \$3.2 million federal loan into the Community Foundation's Northeast Urban Revitalization Fund. The plan permits the Northeast community to benefit twice from the UDAG loan, the first time such an arrangement has been worked out. Hechinger Enterprises borrowed the UDAG money to build Hechinger Mall.

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The DC Public Library and residents of Langston Dwellings are at loggerheads of the library's planned move of the Langston library to a prefab building on the grounds of Spingarn High School. The dwelling residents argue that the new location will force children to walk further and will get them mixed up with loiterers near the area's commercial strip. The library says the new facility will resemble the R.L. Christian Library at 13th & H NE, a circular structure with lots of windows. The current Langston library is ill-marked and located at the bottom of a stairway.

## Upper NE

A 64-unit apartment planned unit development has been approved by the zoning commission. The project, to be developed by Joseph Horning and the Norris Dodson Realty Company, will cover approximately two acres on the west side of Corcoran Street between Mt. Olivet Road and Gallaudet College. The local neighborhood commission approved the PUD.

## Up 16th Street

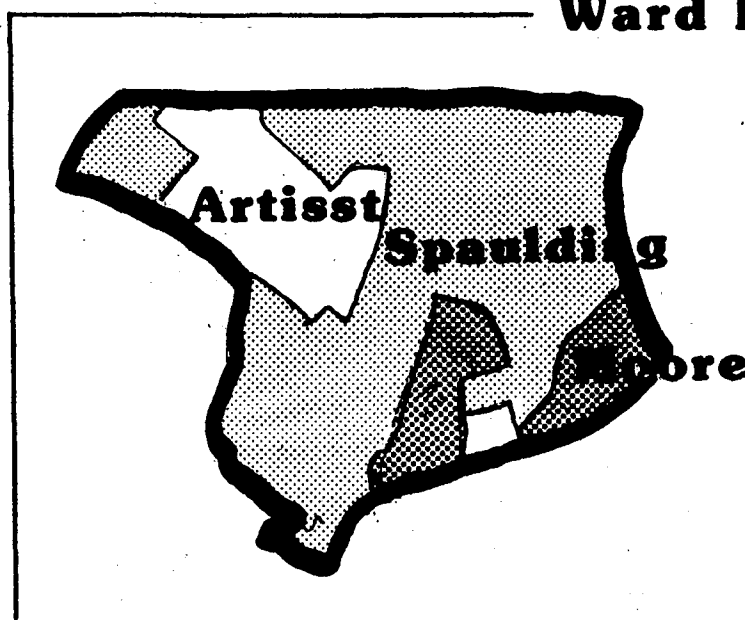
Morton's, the long-time Washington retailer, has opened its sixth store at the old site of Ida's Department Store at Georgia Ave. and Longfellow Street. The store has some 15,000 square feet of selling space.

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Up before the BZA is a request to establish a child development center for 25 children at 414 Farragut St. NW.

§

## Ward Five Primary



With only 7 points separating the three leading candidates, William Spaulding narrowly won the Democratic primary in September. Robert Artisst was second and Doug Moore third. This chart shows where each candidate took precincts with Artisst strong in Trinidad, Queens Chapel and Brookland, Moore taking Ivy City and Kingman Park and Spaulding winning elsewhere.

### News from Neighbors Inc.:

What is the future of Georgia Ave.? Right now, it looks like the go-go bars, video arcades and massage parlors are winning. But community groups—worried about increased crime, drugs, vandalism, loitering, traffic and parking congestion—are fighting back.

The community effort is being led by the Upper Georgia Ave. Planning Committee, chaired by Ramona Greene, a resident of Shepherd Park. Her committee has gathered over 400 names on petitions and held a meeting attended by over 300 area residents, to express concerns about the developments on Georgia Ave.

"We want to build an economically healthy business area on Georgia Avenue that is compatible with the residential character of the surrounding neighborhoods," Ramona said. "Right away, however, there are opportunities we must grab. All liquor licenses in D.C. are up for renewal, and we plan to challenge renewals for the four bars featuring nude entertainment: Shepherd Park Restaurant, Chances Are, The Other Place, and Tina's/Sparky's."

NI and eight other community groups are supporting the effort. NI paid for information flyers and is helping with mailings. NI also set up a special fund for donations—send your contributions (tax deductible) to the NI office.

\*\*\*

The Neighbors Inc. Fall Open House will be at the home of Marvin Caplan, 1210 Geranium St., NW, at 8:00 pm on November 20.

\*\*\*

The TEL Corporation for the Arts, a studio-gallery, has been established in the old Safeway building (built in 1923) at 5505 - 14th St., NW. The three young artists work in a variety of media found in the environment.

\*\*\*

If your plants are dying, your tree has a disease, your sewing machine needs repair, or you can't be sure about those little winged insects crawling around your house, you need the help of the Ward 3 & 4 Cooperative Extension Service located at 1351 Nicholson St., N.W. (next to the Brightwood School).

The Ward 3 & 4 CES offers workshops on home repair and energy conservation, sewing machine maintenance, nutrition, consumer education, clothing and textiles, care of ornamental plants and home grounds, floriculture and indoor plants, bicycle maintenance, home security, and much, much more. They also conduct 4-H and youth programs.

If you need quick advice on a plant you can call the Horticulture Hot Line (Hort Line), 9 am-12 noon, Mon.-Fri., 282-7400. If you would like to consult an entomologist about insects in your home or garden, if you would like more information on workshops and other programs call 282-7410 -7411 -7412.

\*\*\*

The hard work that the Commercial Revitalization Committee of Plan Takoma has undertaken these past several months is starting to bear fruit. The first phase of the action plan was to get funding from the city for the necessary in depth studies of the commercial area. We have received a commitment from the Office of Business and Economic Development for funding in Fiscal '83. The office has also designated Takoma as a target project area.

Councilperson Jarvis will be introducing our Commercial Revitalization Resolution in City Council in the October session.

The committee has met with representatives of the Seventh Day Adventist Church and has established positive lines of communication regarding their plans

to sell some of their property. The Review and Herald Publishing operation will be vacating their building in early '83. The church is concerned about the effect this will have on the community and has assured us that no decision will be made that will negatively impact the community.

—Alice Giancola

One way you can be effective in helping the Georgia Ave. planning effort is simply to keep your eyes open when you are in the area and report any illegal suspicious or nuisance activities. Write down your observations and send them to the Upper Georgia Ave. Planning Committee (1360 Kalmia Rd NW, DC 20012) and to the ABC Board and the Zoning Commission. Notify the police right away. The police have promised prompt attention if you call Central Dispatch (727-1000)—don't call 911 unless it's an emergency.

\*\*\*

Although the Georgia Ave. planning effort is being done mainly through volunteer efforts, funds are urgently needed to help pay for the many expenses involved—printing, postage, legal expenses, if needed.

Neighbors Inc. has set up a special fund for additional contributions. All donations to the fund will be used to support the activities of the Upper Georgia Avenue Planning Committee. Send your check or money order (please note, at the bottom, the purpose of it) to NI, room 206, 7705 Georgia Ave. NW, DC 20012. All donations are tax deductible.

\*\*\*

One of Neighbors Inc.'s services is maintaining a list of service people (plumbers, electricians, carpenters, etc.) recommended by NI members. To make this effective, remember to call the office when you would like to recommend a service person to add to our files. Anyone may ask for referrals. Call 726-3454.

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## Center City

Neighborhood Commission 2C and the Logan Circle Community Association are developing an anti-crime program for the Logan Circle area.

The commission also granted \$150 each to Garrison and Walker-Jones-Simmons School for security and safety programs, \$500 for the Shaw Community School printing press club; \$250 to the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA and \$250 to the Career Development Center at Lincoln Temple Church.

The RLA has approved plans for a \$41.8 million city office building at 14th & U NW. City officials plan to house 1100 workers in the building with completion planned for December 1984.

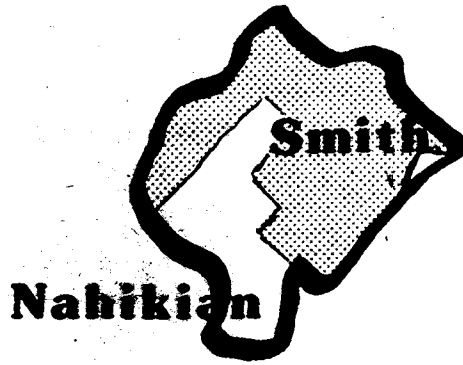
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Neighborhood Commission 1A has granted funds to TNT Block Club, Legal Counsel for the Elderly, House of Champions Boxing Club, Washington Inner City Help and the Washington Free Clinic.

## Adams Morgan Mt. Pleasant

The saga of the Imperial apartments seems to be coming to an end. Tenants lost a two-year-old battle to stay in the apartment building after the HUD declined to come through with funds to help tenants purchase the site. Tenants in the 16 units have until the end of the month to find new housing, for which they will receive a relocation payment from the landlord who plans to convert the site to commercial use.

Community requests will lead to the distribution of 1000 Supercans in the Mount Pleasant area.



The map above shows how Frank Smith and Marie Nahikian split Ward One in the September primary race for ward city council seat. Smith won the ward overall by 50-42%, but Nahikian took precincts in Adams Morgan, Kalorama, Mt. Pleasant and Woodley Park.

## Georgetown

The BZA is considering a request to change the use of the tailor shop at 1300 35th St. NW to "retail sales of fabric and other fine household accessories."

Georgetown residents fighting the waterfront development plans lost the latest round when the DC Court of Appeals ruled last month that the developer could proceed. The opinion, written by Judge Julia Mack, called the project "compatible with not only 20th century structures but also with older historic buildings in the area." Reportedly, it may take as much of a year before construction can start and Georgetown leaders are seeking new ways to stop it.

ANC 3A has moved its office to the Grace Church Rectory, 1041 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. The Old Corcoran School at 1215 28th Street, N.W., where the Commission has been located since 1977, was among the D.C. surplus properties sold earlier in the year and is being vacated also by its long-time occupants, the D.C. DOT Bridge and Tree Divisions, as well as ANC 3A.

## Dupont Circle

Joanna Sturm has requested permission of the BZA to convert the buildings at 2007-2008 Mass. Ave. to office use and to add a flat and dwelling to the structures.

A new disease prevention facility has opened at 2029 P St. NW. The Phoenix Health Center offers a holistic approach to health care and has a staff that includes a family practitioner, a chiropractor, a family counselor, a massage therapist, a nutritionist, a colonic therapist, an acupuncturist, as well as a stress management and addiction-oriented mental health team. The clinic is open five days a week.

The Department of Transportation has received a request asking for removal of an illegal curb cut and a "No Parking Sign" in front of 1724 17th St. If the changes are made, a few more parking spaces will be available.

The D.C. government has available nutritious foods at no cost for pregnant women or those who have delivered a baby in the past year. Also included in the program are infants and children up to the age of six as well as single parents and guardians who have children under six. Need proof of identity and residency; proof of Medicaid, Food Stamp, AFDC or free lunch programs. More info, call 673-6800.

(Please turn to page 25)



## "and don't forget the Gazette. . ."

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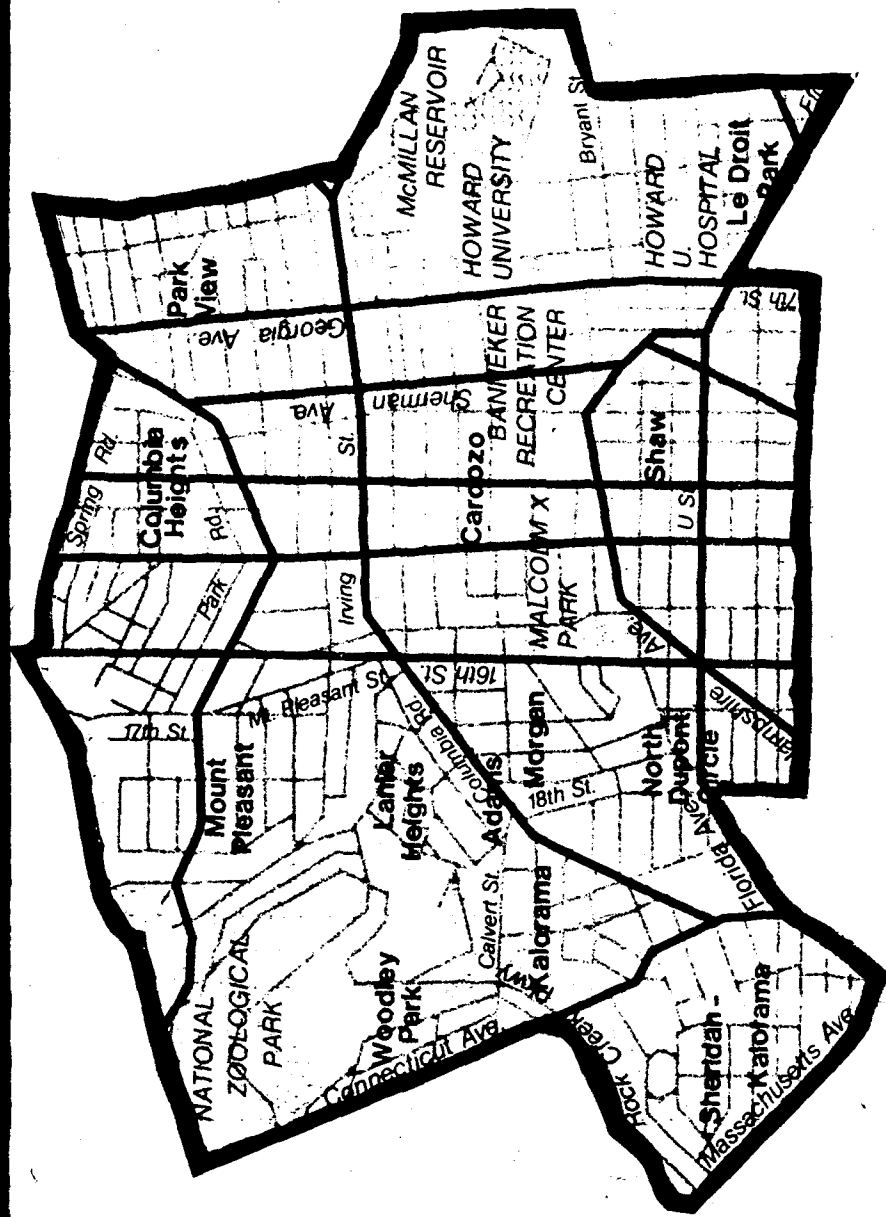
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## Ward Notebooks

Whatever its other faults (and there are many) the comprehensive plan staff draft contains a wealth of information about DC at present. If you will pull out the page at right you will have a summary of one of the plan's ward notebooks. Others will be published in future editions of the Gazette.

# WARD ONE NOTEBOOK



## Ward History

Ward 1 is in the center of the District of Columbia, the only ward that does not border on Maryland or Virginia.

Ward 1 south of Florida Avenue is part of the original L'Enfant City Plan designed with the original grid and diagonal street system. This part of the ward is within walking distance of Downtown and developed early in the city's history. By the 1850s most of the development in the city was south of S Street in Ward 2. At that time, Ward 1 had some major institutions, such as The Columbian College, later to be George Washington University, which was founded in 1822 near Meridian Hill Park.

The street, *University Place*, is a reminder that the college was at that site. Howard University was established in 1867 in part of the extensive federal land extending north to the Old Soldiers Home in Ward 4. LeDroit Park was developed in the 1870s on land acquired from the university. In 1906 McMillan Reservoir was completed on university land.

The transportation system of the city greatly influenced the direction of development. In the 1880s several streetcar lines were extended from the city center, north along Connecticut Avenue, 14th Street and Seventh Street. Connecticut Avenue street cars traveled north to Florida Avenue. The 14th Street line traveled to Monroe Street and the Seventh Street route terminated at Rock Creek Church Road. Another streetcar line made a loop along Ninth and 11th streets, north to Florida Avenue. Commercial uses were along either side of these routes and remain there today.

LeDroit Park and Mount Pleasant were the primary prestigious suburbs of that period. Both were removed from the city and Mount Pleasant was particularly known as a cool summer refuge because it was on a hill.

In 1928, 16th Street was extended across Piney Branch, becoming a major trolley route and dividing Mount Pleasant into two sections. Each part now has a separate identity. Even though 16th and 14th streets both developed high traffic volumes, 14th Street retained its premier position as a commercial center.

Sixteenth Street was designed to be an entrance to

monumental Washington and commercial uses were not permitted along that street. By 1928 the street pattern was complete until freeway planning began in the 1950s. In the 1930s buses began to be used and eventually supplanted the trolley car.

## The Pattern of Housing Development

By the 1880s a few areas had been surveyed beyond the old city boundary; some were not developed. These areas included parts of Adams Morgan, subdivisions along 19th Street, LeDroit Park, Park View, northern Georgia Avenue, and Lanier Heights. Howard University, Children's Hospital and Columbia College are major institutions developed in this period.

By 1902 development in Ward 1 was extensive, including Adams Morgan, the Meridian Hill Community (later replaced by Meridian Hill Park), Columbia Heights and Kalorama. Many former estates in the ward were subdivided and the pattern of row house development was established for most of the area.

In the 1920s many large apartment buildings were built along major routes with concentrations on 16th Street, Connecticut Avenue and Columbia Road. The large detached houses in Sheridan-Kalorama began to fill vacant tracts in that neighborhood.

In the 1930s and 40s the Roosevelt administration brought a major increase in government employment, leading to rapid growth in the city's population. Residents were encouraged to take in roomers and subdivide large houses, starting the trend of converting large row houses into multi-unit buildings and rooming houses.

## Racial Change

Racial change accelerated in the 1950s. Suburban housing for Whites opened in the post-war housing boom of the 1950s and following the 1954 desegregation of schools, the out-migration of whites increased. In the late 1950s, the Southwest Urban Renewal program began and that entire Black community was dispersed. Many Southwest residents moved into Shaw.

Within the Black population, the next phase of migration was based on income. The middle class Black households began to move in the 1960s going farther north and east in the city or to the suburbs. By the time of the 1968 riots, the population in much of Ward 1 was moderate to low income.

The neighborhood deteriorated further after buildings were destroyed in the riots and business and residential lenders were unwilling to invest in the ward. The Shaw and 14th Street Urban Renewal plans were adopted for part of the ward but the pace of redevelopment through urban renewal was slow. By 1981 most residential sites were developed but commercial sites were not.

## Recent Influences

A major freeway, the Inner Loop, was proposed in the 1950s to span U Street and Florida Avenue, encircling downtown. Anticipating this route, the Hilton Hotel was built north of Florida Avenue on Connecticut Avenue. This hotel is the northern limit of the new Downtown. Construction of the expressway and Inner Loop was later cancelled.

In 1969 the Shaw and 14th Street Urban Renewal plans were adopted for parts of Ward 1. By mid-1970, substantial numbers of subsidized apartments were being built where riots had destroyed buildings. Some private rehabilitation also was occurring. However, in spite of the urban renewal programs, the commercial market on 14th Street, U Street and Seventh Street has not improved.

Children's Hospital moved from northern Shaw in 1975, leaving a vacant hospital building, parking lots and auxiliary buildings in the community. A plan to redevelop the property did not materialize for six years. Now a rehabilitation hospital has been proposed for the site.

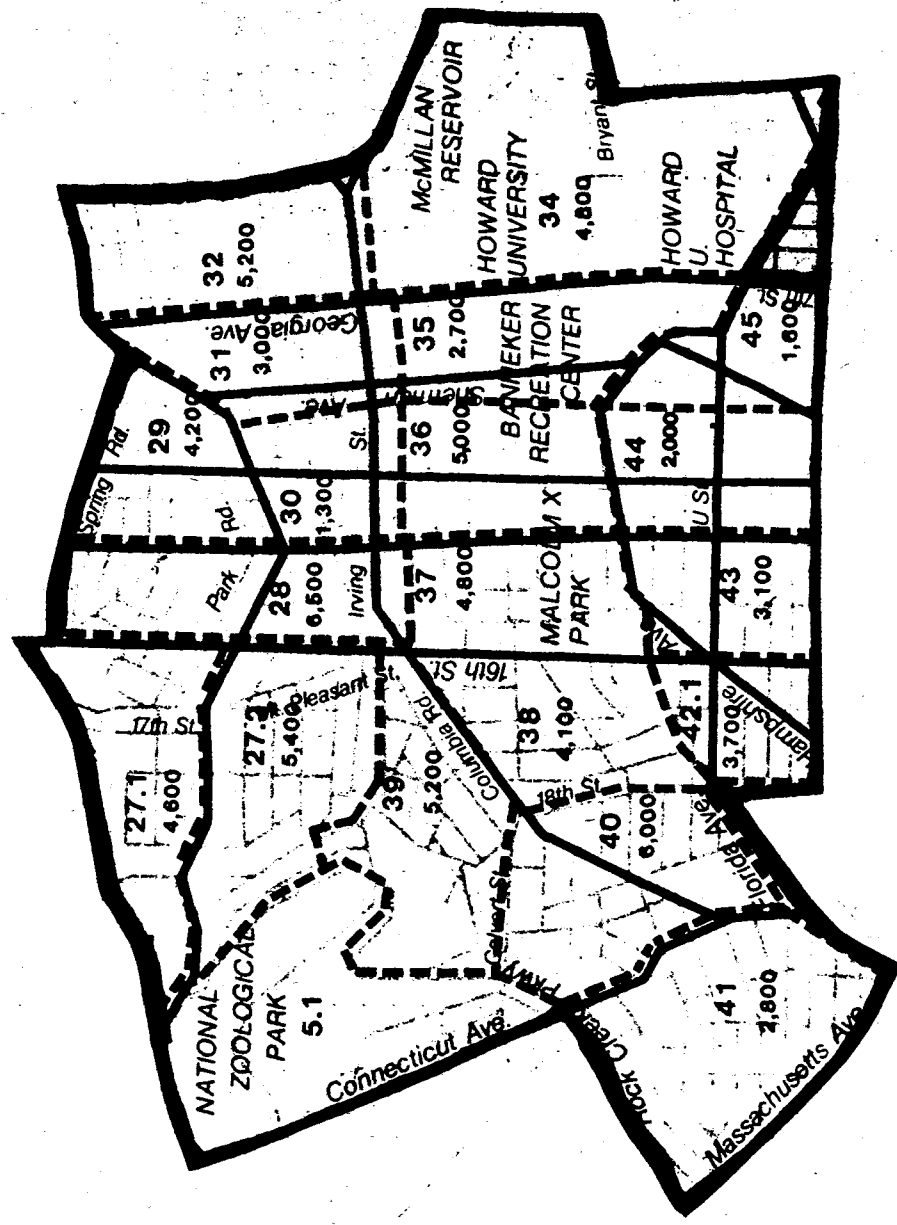
## The Ward Today

Ward 1 is the geographic center of Washington, north of the Central Business District. Since 1970 the ward has become an area in which the divisions of income, education and housing quality are sharply drawn. West of 16th Street, most people have rising incomes, are renovating housing, are well educated, have small households and few children.

East of 16th Street, most people have fixed incomes, are unable to afford housing renovation, have inadequate schooling, and have average to large households with more children

## Neighborhoods

Adams Morgan is between Connecticut Avenue and 16th Street south of Rock Creek Park. It is an



ethnically mixed neighborhood of Hispanic, African, Black and White American and Caribbean people. Row houses, generally Victorian with English basements, and large apartment buildings are the dominant structures. Mansions and historic landmarks line 16th Street.

The Columbia Road and 18th Street commercial area is a vibrant mix of ethnic goods, general merchandise businesses and myriad restaurants. Most of the population is young, though many elderly people live here.

On the average, households are small though portions of the area have households with many children. Increases in housing prices are eliminating the ethnic and economic mix by driving away the low and moderate income households.

**Mount Pleasant** is between Harvard Street and Rock Creek Park west of 16th Street. The neighborhood has an ethnically mixed population like that of Adams Morgan but is less dense. Most houses are row houses although there are large apartments on 16th Street.

A variety of convenience goods is available from the commercial strip on Mount Pleasant Street. Some store fronts are being remodeled; renovation is accelerating. Here too, housing prices are displacing residents with low and moderate incomes.

Sheridan-Kalorama is west of Connecticut and Florida avenues with Rock Creek Park on its other sides. It has a large number of mansions, embassies, chanceries, and renovated apartment buildings. The residents are among the city's wealthiest. The population is adult with a low proportion of children and a high proportion of people over 65.

**Cardozo and Lower Columbia Heights** are south of Monroe Street to Florida Avenue between Georgia Avenue and 16th Street. The communities are medium-high density residential neighborhoods of row houses, many of which are converted to apartments. Apartment buildings are developed most densely between 14th and 15th streets.

The buildings are midrise, three- to six-story buildings, unlike the taller buildings west of 16th Street. Deterioration is extensive south of Monroe Street but the 14th Street corridor is being redeveloped with garden and highrise apartment buildings. A major retail center is planned around 14th Street and Park Road. Toward Georgia Avenue, housing conditions improve though considerable maintenance is needed.

**Shaw** is south of Florida Avenue between 15th and Seventh streets. This community is linked to Ward 2 and Ward 5 communities by being part of the larger Shaw School Urban Renewal Area. Shaw is a medium density residential neighborhood of two-

story row houses in which apartment conversion seems limited. The northern portion has remnants of a once active but now deteriorated industrial area that included dairies, construction-related businesses and other light industries.

Generally, family incomes are low and housing needs rehabilitation. The commercial areas on Seventh, 14th and U streets were devastated by the 1968 riots. Urban Renewal created clusters of renovated town houses for owner-occupancy and subsidized housing for 152 elderly people and 48 families.

**LeDroit Park** is south of Howard University between Florida Avenue east to Second Street. This neighborhood still has mansions and cottages built before the turn of the century that are of historic merit. Other uses are row houses, apartments and public housing. The portion of the neighborhood south of Elm Street is on the National Register of Historic Places. The neighborhood had deteriorated considerably but now is being renovated.

**The Upper Columbia Heights** neighborhood which is between 18th Street, Monroe Street, Spring Road and Georgia Avenue, and the **Park View** neighborhood which is east of Georgia Avenue, are two neighborhoods of generally well-tended row houses for families. Home ownership is high, as is the proportion of households with three or more people. Apartment buildings are two to four stories. Commercial uses are along 11th Street, 14th Street and Georgia Avenue.

## Current Population

Ward 1's population (1980 census) is 78,700, which is 16 percent less than the 1970 population. This rate of decrease is greater than the citywide population loss of 15 percent over the same period and is the fourth highest rate of decline of all the city's wards.

According to 1980 census figures, the Ward 1 population is 24 percent White and 76 percent non-White. The proportion of Whites in the ward is less than the citywide proportion of 27 percent, but greater than any ward except wards 2 and 3, which have 42 percent and 92 percent respectively.

Black people make up nearly 70 percent of the ward; 1.2 percent is of Asian origin and over 5 percent is other races (highest in the city). Among all races, 7.8 percent is of Spanish origin, which is more than any other ward. The ward has 35 percent of the Hispanic population of the city.

The ward's racial composition has changed since the 1970 census. The White population decreased by only 4 percent, less than in the city as a whole (18 percent decrease) and less than in any areas except Ward 6.

The non-White population here and in Ward 2 decreased by 21 percent, which is greater than the citywide rate (15 percent). Only the decline in number and percent of non-Whites living in Ward 6 was greater. This points up the definite shift in the Ward 1 composition to a greater proportion of Whites, with this shift occurring while the citywide proportion of White population was decreasing.

## Geographic Distribution

Data on the geographic distribution of population within the ward are available both from the 1970 and 1980 censuses, allowing more detailed analysis of ward characteristics. Examination of census tracts shows that the greatest population decrease was east of 16th Street.

Tract 30, which encompasses the central portion of Columbia Heights, had the greatest loss at 59 percent. This was followed by tracts 44 (44.5 percent), 45 (35.9 percent) and 43 (26.2 percent), all of which are below Florida Avenue in the Lower Cardozo and Shaw neighborhoods. (See table on page 13)

Several other areas had decreases greater than the ward rate, including a 21.2 percent loss in Tract 38 (Adams-Morgan, east of 18th Street), a 19.2 percent loss in Tract 32 (Parkview), and an 18.5 percent loss in tracts 29 and 31 (Columbia Heights).

Two areas west of 16th Street were the most stable in the ward. The Mount Pleasant neighborhood encompasses two tracts, one of which was the only one to have a population increase; Tract 27.1 increased by 4.5 percent and Tract 27.2 had a modest decline of 8.3 percent.

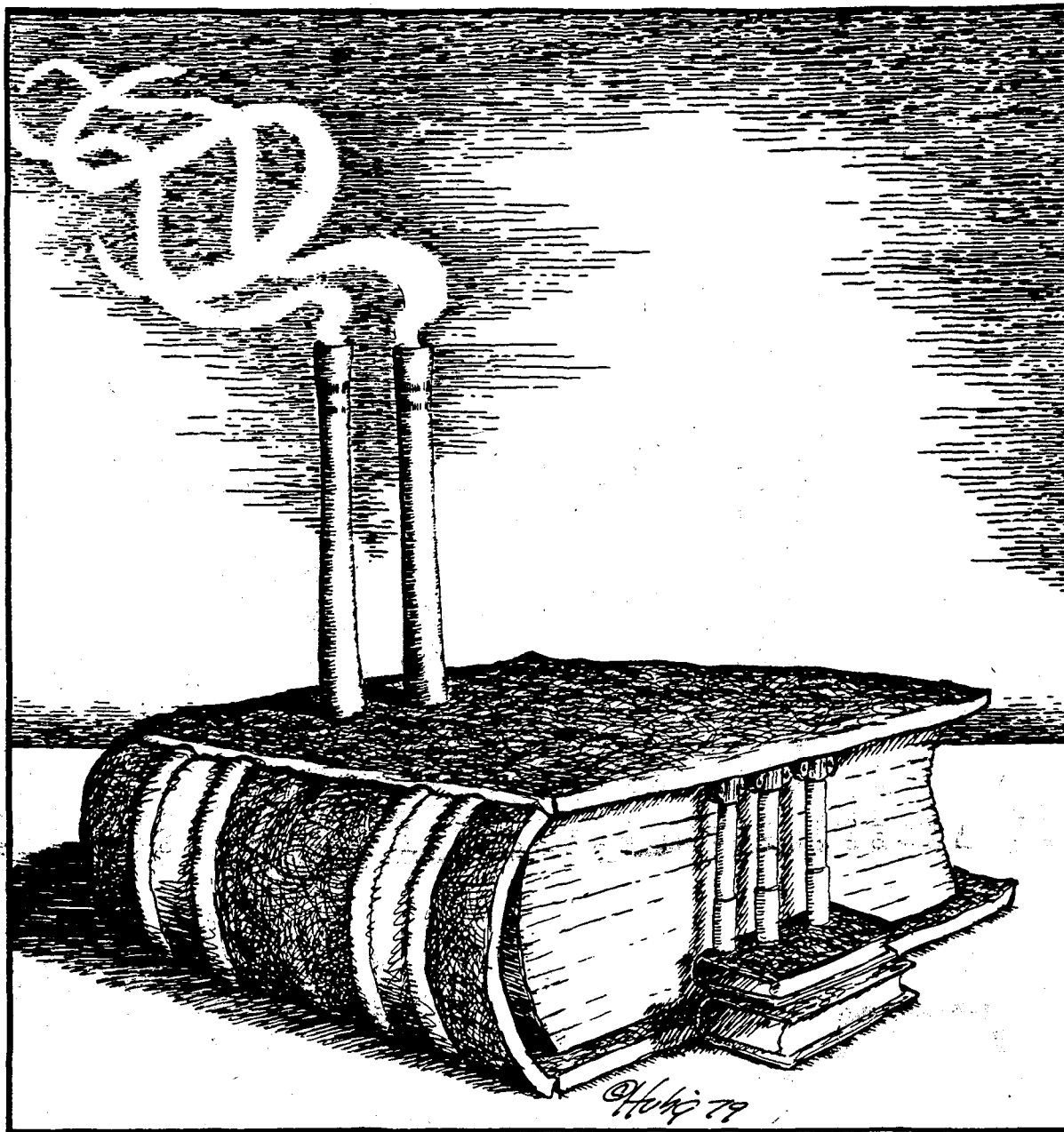
The Kalorama-Sheridan area (Tract 41) had a small rate of change, declining by only 3.3 percent. And LeDroit Park (Tract 34), at the eastern edge of the ward, also was relatively stable with a 10.7 percent decrease in population. The remaining tracts had moderate population losses, less than the rate of the ward as a whole.

## Age Distribution

Between 1970 and 1978 Ward 1 had large population decreases in a number of age groups. The actual distribution of population by age group, however, did not change greatly.

# Weather Report

November 1982



## TAKING THE MONOPOLY OUT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Dennis Doyle**

Two major education trends which gained force in the late seventies are now firmly in place: Public schools are in serious trouble and private schools are flourishing.

As public school enrollments continue to decline, private enrollments increase. As revenues for public schools decrease, private school tuitions increase and more parents are willing to pay higher fees. As public schools continue to fail minority children, evidence mounts that minority children, too, perform better in private schools.

Do these trends mean that the days of public schools are numbered? Will tuition tax credits or education vouchers be enacted and reinforce the movement to private schools? Public school officials are nervous about the future because they have much to be nervous

about. But thoughtful public school supporters should treat vouchers and tax credits as a stalking horse, not a genuine threat. Indeed, public school advocates have the ability to bury the issue of public aid to private school — not by opposing it, but by improving public schools.

But public school people will only increase their distress if they simply wring their hands and complain that private schools have all the breaks: Private schools can admit who they like; they can fire or hire teachers as they see fit; they can suspend or exclude unruly or hard-to-educate children. What these complaints add up to is that private schools have standards for student and teacher behavior, and that they act on these standards. Public school administrators ought to be wary of admitting their inability to do likewise.

To frame the problem properly, however, it is necessary to approach it from a different angle. Assume that our public officials and our public institutions reflect our social desires and priorities. Assume that representative democracy works. Is there really a constituency in this society for low test scores, poor school performance and discipline problems? Of course not. The present set of dismal circumstances represents public policy run amuck. Teachers, students, and taxpayers still believe that schools are places for children to learn; that the unruly and undisciplined should not interfere with the education of the motivated and serious; that standards should be set and met.

The true roots of the problem are revealed in those urban school districts where it is most acute. Such districts are often bureaucratic monopolies, as unresponsive and remote as industrial cartels. Parents who choose private schools do so because they have lost faith in the capacity of public schools to deliver what they want. They believe in choice, diversity and responsiveness. They believe that different students and different schools should be matched. They do not believe in the "one best system" of standardized schools to which children are assigned by bureaucratic edict or accidents of geography.

Ten years of Gallup polls reveal a consistent and powerful finding: The citizens most unhappy about public school quality are not intellectuals, or reformers, or radicals but big city northern blacks. In 1980, 37 percent of this group gave public schools a "D" or an "F"

rating: by contrast, only 9 percent of residents of towns in the 2,500-50,000 population range gave schools low marks.

Inner-city minorities, after all, have the most riding on school quality. Historically excluded from good neighborhoods and good jobs, quality education offers them their one real hope for advancement.

What this suggests for public schools is that they can learn something from private schools. Above all, private schools are uniformly small and non-bureaucratic, as public schools once were. Just as public schools were consolidated into massive, unwieldy districts over the past half century, producing ever larger and more bureaucratic systems, so now they can be "deconsolidated." Real control should exist at the building level, and the district-wide superintendent and staff should serve the school, rather than the reverse. The key actors in the education enterprise are principals and teachers, and they should be encouraged to reassume their professional responsibilities.

An end to the arbitrary geographic assignment of pupils is a necessary first step. Open enrollment and genuine parent choice would make public schools voluntary associations, places where teachers and students are more responsive to one another. In voluntary schools, teachers and students would recognize reciprocal obligations as well as rights.

The great variety of approaches among private schools attests to the truth of a simple observation: Teachers, students, and parents differ greatly. A good school for one student or teacher is not necessarily good for another.

If there were one best way to educate, a public school monopoly might make sense. But there are many ways to educate, as there are many different kinds of people. The response to public school monopoly need not be private schools; through deconsolidation, it might lead instead to curricular differentiation and enrollment without reference to traditional political and geographic barriers.

An effort to develop a comprehensive plan for competitive public schools is already underway in California, directed by the Sacramento-based Sequoia Institute. Sequoia is exploring legal and structural alternatives to the existing system, including the possibility of an initiative that would permit the public to vote for school district deconsolidation, or a voucher system restricted to public schools.

At the other end of the country, New York's district superintendent for Spanish Harlem, Anthony Alvarado, has eliminated the neighborhood assignment of students. Beginning this fall, Harlem students must choose which school they will attend. Alvarado makes no bones about the likely consequences: "If a school isn't good enough, it won't attract students. Students should not be forced to go to a school that they and their parents do not think is as good as other schools."

Together, deconsolidation and student choice could revolutionize our public educational system. No longer confined to schools by geography or bureaucratic fiat, students and their families could enroll in institutions that appear to satisfy their interests and meet their priorities. Teachers, as well, could select schools consistent with their own interests, abilities and talents.

School systems administered at the individual build-

*Dennis Doyle is director of educational policy studies for the American Enterprise Institute.*

## APPLE PIE

A Columbus, Ohio, public relations firm looking for the most devoted Ohio State Football fan may have come up with a winner. After rejecting a woman who dived into her TV set while trying to help OSU recover a fumble, they discovered Al Passante. Passante has attended 367 Buckeye games, and says he didn't speak to his daughter for 27 years after she gave him the mumps and forced him to miss the 1954 Ohio State-Michigan game. He also refused to speak to his wife for all that time -- she went to the game without him.

§

A new survey has revealed that hamburgers now account for all less than fifty percent of all sales at every fast food chain except for one. In some cases the burger has slipped as low as twenty percent of the business.

§

A two-and-a-half year, \$40,000 Pentagon study has concluded that today's GIs don't like coffee. Researchers say young recruits prefer their coffee 25 percent weaker than older veterans. In fact, younger soldiers would rather drink a lot of other things, including milk, orange juice, lemonade, iced and hot tea and hot chocolate.

§

The Saddleback Valley Unified School District in California has announced that in the future students will have to know how to operate a computer in order to graduate from high school.

ing level can offer more than good education. They can become focal points for the entire community—seed beds of citizen participation and democracy. In turn, the opportunity to choose carefully among schools becomes an important responsibility: It requires students and their families to actively commit themselves to a course of action.

Public schools can indeed regain their natural constituency—and recapture their historic sense of mission—if they are willing to dissolve the monopoly of which they are a part. Monopolies in any sphere are not only hostile to consumer interests; they eventually suffocate themselves.

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## Weather Report

The Weather Report is published monthly, October through July by the DC Gazette. The Weather Report comes free with a subscription to the DC Gazette, but is also available separately at \$8 a year. The Weather Report uses the services of Pacific News Service, College Press Service, Community Press Features and HerSay News Service.

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## VDTs & Babies

Fresh evidence from Canada is fueling fears that the use of office computers could be linked to infant abnormalities. The Coalition for the Medical Rights of Women reports that a hospital employees union in Vancouver has discovered that six recent pregnancies among its office workers who use computers have produced only one healthy baby. Two of the six women suffered miscarriages, another experienced a premature birth, a fourth gave birth to a child with bronchitis, and a fifth woman's child was born with a deformed foot. All six mothers operate video display terminals at Surrey Memorial Hospital.

## Peoples College of Law

Founded by La Raza Law Students Association, Asian Law Collective, National Lawyers Guild and National Conference of Black Lawyers.

Now accepting enrollment applications for Spring and Fall 1983. Deadline for applications: November 30, 1982 and July 15, 1983.

PCL's goals are to train peoples' lawyers and have a student body of 3/4 Third World/Working Class students with 50% women.

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# PROGRESSIVE DIGEST

A study conducted among readers of the national gay newspaper, The Advocate, found the median income of its readers to be \$30,000 — nearly fifty percent higher than the national average. The study notes that because male homosexuals generally do not have families, mortgages or big insurance payments, they have more disposable income.

§

The National Council for Research on Women (47 East 65th St., NYC NY 10021. 212-750-6047) has been formed to promote collaboration in research projects, and to build a network of researchers and programs on women. Council president Mariam Chamberlain predicts the council's 28 scholarly centers will "play and increasingly important role in both scholarship and policies of this nation." The groups differ in focus, but they are all involved in feminist research. The council is considering adding libraries and collections documents on women to its network.

§

The Center for Community Change (1000 Wisconsin Ave. NW, DC 20007) has published a guide to generating business income for small nonprofit organizations. The guide covers such topics as structure, financing, legal and tax complications, and lots of how-to information. Available for \$3.

§

Christians of Socialism is a national ecumenical organization of political Christians that has been in existence since 1974. They offer a variety of materials from their offices at 3540 14th St., Detroit, Mich. 48208.

§

A California research firm, J.D. Power & Associates, has found that less than half of American cars are problem-free at delivery, compared to nearly two-thirds of Japanese cars and 60 percent of German imports. The firm also found that more than half of

US car buyers have to seek second or third repairs of the same defect, compared with fewer than one-fourth of Honda and Toyota owners.

§

Researchers at the University of Michigan say they've turned rancid butter and rotting vegetables into diesel-grade fuel. Besides helping the engine run cooler, the veggie-fuel exhaust has a savory aroma, something between french fries and popcorn. But then, so does our present car.

§

Investigators for the House Appropriations Committee have found defense contractors are padding their bills with millions of dollars for such frills as hunting lodges, pool tables, and, in one case, cowboy hats. House staffers say corruption among government contractors has continued "apparently unabated" despite numerous laws designed to stem abuses.

Among the horror stories were a million dollars for sponsoring a tennis tournament and \$68,000 to pay for "legal expenses for defense against bribery charges."

§

Birthday greetings to the Washington Office on Africa which marks its tenth anniversary this month. WOA was formed in 1972 to mobilize American support for majority rule in Southern Africa. It is the major organization that focuses primarily on US policy in Southern Africa and played an important role in getting US Export-Import Bank credits to South Africa cut off and blocking US covert action in Angola by preventing the repeal of the Clark Amendment. WOA is located at 110 Maryland Ave. NE, DC 20002.

§

Madison, Wisc., mayor Joel Skornicka has proposed that his city foot half the taxi fare for working women at night. The proposal was presented as an alternative to increasing bus service. Skornicka says that using taxis would be cheaper and safer than increasing the number of buses.

§

You may hear journalists and politicians start throwing around the phrase "selective incapacitation." It comes from a Rand Corporation report that says that an identifiable class of "violent predators" should get long sentences and those determined to be less dangerous shorter terms. The Rand people admit that there might be some objection to keeping people in jail "in order to prevent crimes they might commit in the future."

The Rand study argues, however, that there are seven factors common to the serious offenders and that the presence of any four usually identified the "violent predator" type:

- Someone who has been in prison more than half the time in the two year period before the most recent arrest.
- Prior conviction for the crime being sentenced.
- Criminal conviction before the age of 16.

- Served a term in a juvenile prison.

- Heroin or barbiturate use in the two years before arrest.

- Heroin or barbiturate use as a juvenile.

- Employed less than half the time in the two year period before arrest.

If we understand this all correctly, if you're unemployed you're one-fourth the way towards being a violent predator. The money to finance this conclusion came, incidentally, from the federal government.

§

A reader sends us a clipping from the July 20, 1981, issue of Forbes that describes a study by the Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation in New York, which found that in 17 cities where employers were subsidized to hire unskilled youths, they didn't. In Baltimore and Detroit, for example, only 18% of private firms hired such workers even when the federal government paid all the wages and cut back the paperwork. When the employers were asked to pay 25% of the costs in Detroit, participation dropped to 10%. The 6000 employers who did hire workers mostly only hired two or three each. Concluded the study, "the private sector alone cannot be the answer to problems of youth employment, at least for low-income, minority youths."

§

UDC professor Irv Richter sends along a copy of his review of The Great Fear: The Anti-Communists Purge Under Truman and Eisenhower, by David Caute, published by Simon &

## Israeli Peace Groups

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Jerusalem, ISRAEL

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Radio City Station  
New York, New York 10101

OZ V'SHALOM (Religious Zionists in Israel)  
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Bridgewater, VA 22812

Gillian Kerley  
Box 256, Madison, WI 53701

Michael McMillan  
Box 942, Madison, WI 53701

Benjamin Sasway, #58318  
Metropolitan Correctional Center  
808 Union Street  
San Diego, CA 92101

Mark Schmucker  
Goshen College  
Goshen, IN 46526

David Wayne  
475 Alpine Street  
Pasadena, CA 91106

Russell Ford  
Ecology House  
69 High St.  
Middletown, CT 06457

Washington Peace Center

Schuster in 1978. Richter, who wrote the review for Labor History, says the book "may well be the definitive work on the anti-communist purge." Despite some errors, "I know of no single work that is more important for students concerned with postwar American social and labor history." Given the temper of the times, it might be good to dig this one up.

§

"The Philippines, a strategic ally of the United States, is being touted as a 'success story' of Third World development," says Walden Bello, coauthor of *Development Debacle: The World Bank in the Philippines*. "But as a direct result of President Marcos' policies and the development strategies promoted by the United States, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, most Filipinos are far worse off today than when Marcos came to power over 16 years ago."

*Development Debacle*, based on more than 6,000 pages of confidential memoirs and reports leaked from the World Bank, including the politically explosive Ascher Memorandum, provides a detailed account of the devastating impact of massive World Bank initiatives on the lives of the Filipino poor and an unprecedented look into the workings of the world's largest development aid institution. Authored by Walden Bello, David Kinley and Elaine Elinson, it was copublished in September by the San Francisco-based Institute for Food and Development Policy and the Philippine Solidarity Network.

*Development Debacle* is available for \$6.95 from the Institute for Food and Development Policy, 1885 Mission Street, San Francisco, California 94103.

\* \* \*

A clerical workers' support group has just published a first-of-its-kind consumers' guide to word processors.

"The Human Factor"—created by 9 To 5, the National Association of Working Women—rates different word processors according to health, safety and comfort. The guide covers everything from the glare emitted from video display terminals to the color of the letters printed on VDT screens.

"9 To 5" notes that about one-third of the 42 million women employed in the US make their living as clerical workers, and that the number of those workers using word processors is apt to double from 5 million to 10 million by 1985.

## Prison Sources

**The National Juvenile Restitution Association** was formed recently to promote the use of restitution by courts as the appropriate sanction for young offenders. Restitution can provide a decent, practical, cost-effective alternative to incarceration; stresses accountability of the offender; offers redress to victims; and builds community confidence. For more information, write the Association at PO Box 8000, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89507; 702/784-6628.

The conditions of prisoners' lives both prior to and during periods of imprisonment lead to a variety of stresses which prisoners, usually without adequate resources or assistance, are required to manage. How prisoners cope with these pressures is one subject reviewed in **Coping With Imprisonment**, a series of papers collected by Nicolette Parisi of Temple University. Other papers look at the conditions which produced riots at Attica and Santa Fe, the role of the courts in correctional reform, parole practice, the use of good time measures and prisoner reactions to determinate and indeterminate sentencing. Order from Sage Publications, 275 South Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90212 for \$7.95.

**A Death Penalty Information Packet** contains eleven leaflets with facts, quotations, articles, and a list of organizations working against the death penalty. Supported by the Unitarian Universalist ~~Veatch Program~~, it is possible to offer the packet at a below-cost price: \$1 each; 75¢ for orders of five or more. Order from Institute for Southern Studies, PO Box 531, Durham, NC 27702.

**Corrections and Alternatives: A Community Planning Workbook**, by Ellen J. Mowbray and Arlen S. Morris, is a basic nuts-and-bolts model for system-wide analysis and improvement of community criminal justice and human services. Designed to be used by a planning group to assist in gathering and analyzing data, it also serves as a reference for formulating policy and developing a plan of action. The problems of jail overcrowding and of "widening the net" of social control are emphasized. An extensive 45-page supplemental reading list is included. Available from Aurora Associates, Inc., 1140 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 1200, Washington, DC 20036; price \$16.95, plus \$2.50 for mailing and handling.

The National Council on Crime and Delinquency, through its Technical Assistance Department, assists local officials in dealing with overcrowded jails and improving management of criminal justice systems. A pamphlet entitled **Overcrowded Jail?** describes this service. Contact Stefanie Barth or David Christensen at NCCD (411 Hackensack Ave., Hackensack, NJ 07601; 201/488-0400) for more information.

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It is true, as they say in the White House, that the president can't be blamed for all the country's economic ills. There are other culprits. Take the media, for example.

The media has covered the story in its usual manner, i.e. going to the top for information and ideas and to the bottom for color. The color stories are often evocative but seldom revealing. The stories based on the assessments of economists and politicians are not only unrevealing but seldom evocative of anything other than Herbert Hoover's great acceptance speech before the GOP convention in 1928 in which he said:

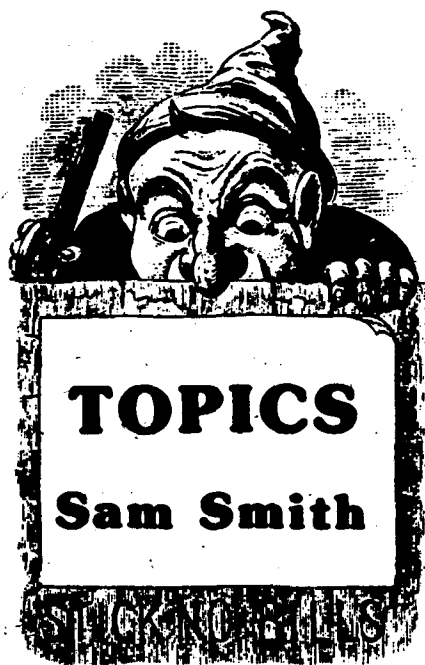
"We in America today are nearer to the final triumph over poverty than ever before in the history of the land . . . We have not yet reached the goal, but, given a chance to go forward with the policies of the last eight years, we shall soon with the help of God be in sight of the day when poverty will be banished from the nation."

A case in point was the media's rampant disinterest until relatively recently in what has been a most profound change in traditional economics: the widespread official acceptance of usurious interest rates. When interest rates were rising to record levels, the media generally accepted the idea, assiduously fostered by financial institutions, that rates had to climb in lockstep with inflation, ignoring the historical oddity that we have had substantial inflation without such rate increases. Further, the media lost interest in this concept when inflation plummeted, rarely mentioning that interest rates were lagging far behind.

At the same time there was a curious assumption that interest rates were simultaneously independent of inflation, that raising interest rates would in fact put the lid on inflation, as though businesses, through some magical means, would not pass on the interest charges they were paying to maintain inventories and the like to their customers. In truth, interest rates may have eventually helped stifle inflation, but simply because the ability of financial institutions to raise the rates outran businesses' ability to raise their prices. It's a little like stopping excessive drinking on the Titanic by running into an iceberg.

For many, many months, one could have easily ascertained the incredibly depressive effects of usurious rates by talking to the nearest real estate dealer, contractor or retail merchant. These folks, and their customers, were being squeezed to economic death and they, at least, knew why.

But in large part because the media failed to do so, the public widely accepted the economic clichés that appeared on their front pages out of New York and Washington. As the economy was rolling quickly downhill, one Democratic member of Congress told me that he knew the important role of the rates, but that the public didn't seem to care. The blame for this can only partially be laid at the feet of Daddy Grease. The media had simply once again — not through malice but merely out of habit — convinced people that what



they saw around them was not reality, that economics was too important for a mere civilian to judge based on what academics like to call "anecdotal material." Once again the media had convinced people that life is a vicarious experience; reality comes from official sources.

Finally, of course, the situation became so awful that the truth of the matter seeped in under the door of the White House. Interest rates became — months too late — a political concern and, a few weeks before the election, even the Federal Reserve Board joined the bandwagon.

I mention all this now because the economy is showing signs of turning around and already there are indications that the media will again downplay the role interest rates have in all of this. Everyone from stock brokers to your local builder could tell the press that it is missing the story. The media would be smart to talk to some of these folks occasionally — in order to learn something and not to just get a picturesque bullet quote.

While on such matters, I have been fascinated by the unwillingness of the media to refer to our economic distress as a depression. Even after unemployment hit ten percent, there remained a strong tendency to phrase records in terms of World War II or 1941 and to avoid any uncomfortable reminders of the other great event of that period. To be fair to the media, there may be more here than panglossian patriotism. Part of the problem stems from the tendency of all news coverage to follow the lead of sports reporting. The basic rule in sports reporting is that events only become truly important if a record — no matter how obscure — is broken. Obviously, the recent malaise did not equal that of the Great Depression, hence no record, hence no depression.

There is something to be said for the concept that things that are more similar to each other than they are to something else should share a distinct generic name. To call what we've been through, for example, a record-breaking recession may be defensible, but hardly the best way to put it. As a descriptive matter, it makes more sense to lump recent events with the Thirties and call it what is: a depression, albeit milder than the Great Depression. And the

media's refusal to do so hasn't helped us to get out of it, whatever it is.

Now, for a change of pace, I'd like to rise to the defense of the corporate media, in particular New York's WABC-TV. Last month, during the Brooklyn hospital hostage crisis, the police asked the TV station to broadcast the full text of a statement from the gunman holding the hostages. The station agreed and another hostage was released.

WABC-TV has come in for considerable flack for having played this role. The Daily News, for example, said editorially, "There's something wrong when a guy who was just a number in Attica a few days ago can commandeer a spotlight like that. We in the news business must draw the line against being twisted so easily."

Said Cliff Abromats of WABC-TV: "We didn't have the time to sit down and debate the philosophical and ethical aspects of the request. We had two minutes."

Watching the media in its increasingly favored role of ethical philosopher is both a little funny and a little sad. If, for example, the Daily News wishes to draw the line "against being twisted so easily," it might begin with much simpler cases, such as not printing the lies, misrepresentations, and manipulations of presidents, secretaries of state and defense, developers, fashion designers, movie producers, football coaches and corporate vice presidents for public relations. A major newspaper or TV station that drew the line at manipulation in any of its more significant forms would simply have to cease to exist. There would be no food section, no sports pages, no real estate insert, no special menswear or skiing supplement, and huge holes in the national and foreign pages. The gunman's real problem was not that he was manipulating the media but that he had not been officially cleared to do so.

A further question, however, is why the media has such a strong inclination to demand that human actions reflect rigid principles, preferably committed to writing beforehand and certainly discussable at length in thinkpieces afterwards? Why can't a TV news director make a judgement at a time like this based not solely on guidelines, but on what instinct and experience suggest at the moment? Led by the pompous and tedious National News Council, the media is fostering a standard of journalistic behavior which is, at its core, bureaucratic, i.e. do nothing unless you can justify it in writing.

Because of such a standard, the Washington Post engaged in its foolish and excruciatingly long retrospective on how one young reporter, Janet Cooke, fouled up one story. And it is because of such a standard that WABC-TV finds itself under attack.

This is not to say one cannot argue over whether WABC-TV was right or wrong. But one must start with the premise that whatever it did was understandable because it faced a real dilemma. Only those who have never faced (or have faced but ignored) such dilemmas can be satisfied with even their own solution.

The attempt to eliminate, through rigid adherence to guidelines or principles, the random effects of human intuition is, of course, not limited to the media. It is a characteristic of our day and our country, witness the growing number of lawsuits against people guilty only of what can be roughly lumped as a lack of infallibility. The reaction is to cover one's butt and the result is that we've developed the most butt-protecting society in the history of the world.

The media could help to alter this through presenting ethical decisions as natural human dilemmas and not as mere problems to be resolved through improved regulations and guidelines.

§

I have a letter here from Chandler Collins of Palm Springs, California, who says he's asking the Federal Election Commission for an advisory opinion on whether Air Force II should be available for rent by all political parties rather than merely the Republican National Committee.

Collins also wrote the vice president and received a letter from Frederick Bush of the Veep's staff that read, "Thank you for your recent letter in which you inquired about the possibility of renting Air Force II for private use. I regret to inform you that Air Force II is not available for use by private concerns."

Collins argument, and a good one it is, is that the GOP committee is a private concern as well and that when Air Force II is used for Republican campaign trips, the committee picks up the tab. Either the plane should be available to all parties or to none, says Collins. Don't hold your breath on this one.

§

I think that those of us who enjoy reading USA Today should come right out and admit it, especially now that there are about 220,000 of us, poor suffering souls long restricted to sneaking through the National Enquirer in the supermarket line, reading People at the doctor's office and catching an occasional glance at That's Incredible. Now cultural voyeurs have their own daily paper and a wonderful thing it is, right down to the thrilling full-color weather map on the back page (what tint will they use for ten below zero?).

But there's more to this paper than merely kitsch kicks. It has at least the potential of being what it claims to be — a national paper, rather than, as with the Post and the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal, business or political capital papers sending the word out to the masses. The Washington Post would never guarantee to give us even three sentences a day about what's going on in South Dakota. It simply doesn't think South Dakota is even that important.

In a way then, USA Today could well become not merely an important journalistic advance, but a significant cultural phenomenon. Its subliminal message is a unifying one, making the reader feel part of a great, varied and wacky country. Unlike television, or the so-called great national newspapers, it avoids the cultural imperialism that is at the heart of

their programming and news content.

Further, it accomplishes one of a newspaper's prime — but little noted, tasks: to make the reader feel a little better about the day. This is not a function of the quantity of "happy news" but rather a sometimes bizarre, sometimes sentimental, sometimes moving, sometimes informative, sometimes funny, affirmation of life.

When I finish the Washington Post in the morning, my mind feels like my stomach feels when I've had two more slices of bad pizza than I really needed. I go to the office, stopping by the local newsstand for USA Today, put my feet up on my desk, read the charts, the gore, the titilating, the weather, and a few stories from the states of my choice and I am ready to begin the day with vigor and joy. God bless Mr. Gannett and all the little Gannetts.

§

Federal judges may be surprised that the Pentagon, at least, sees them as on a judicial and legal par with a unit commanding officer. At least this is how I read the following from a George Wilson story on the Pentagon announcing plans to open overseas military mail of soldiers suspected of posting drugs or other contraband. Wilson wrote:

"A Defense Department attorney would have to obtain permission from a commanding officer before a GI's mail could be opened, just as a US attorney must receive advance approval from a federal judge before opening civilian mail, the Pentagon official said."

Not quite "just as..."

§

I was staring at a list of SAT scores by state, wondering, with complete futility, why I had bothered to clip it, when I was struck by a fascinating statistical phenomenon, namely that those states with the ten highest SAT averages were also those states with some of the lowest participation in the tests. The converse was true of those states ranked lowest in the averages. In the highest ranked states, only between 2 and ten percent of high school seniors took the test; in the lowest rank states, participation ran between 47% and 64%, with the exception of Texas, which, once again, can't be relied upon. If you looked only at the rankings, you might assume that the smartest kids were in Iowa and South Dakota, but since only 2-3% of the students took the tests there, you may

want to double-check before moving.

§

As a retired Episcopalian, I probably should keep my mouth shut, but I can't help expressing my dismay at that sect's recent assault on music, unparalleled since the advent of the moog synthesizer. The church tossed out 250 hymns in its old hymnal including such foot-stompers as "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands," "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "Eternal Father Strong to Save." As close and I can figure it, and I must rely on news reports here, the theological experts made the judgements largely on the basis of lyrics rather than the tunes. This reflects, I think, a basic misunderstanding of the value of hymns. In popular music, as well, there are few lyrics that will stand up to close textual analysis but who really cares, shaboom, shaboom?

Any faith that dispenses with "He's Got the Whole World" deserves a loss in congregation, a crisis of confidence, and whatever else the traditional church is suffering from these days.

The problem, at least in its Episcopalian incarnation, may go back some time. Mary Schwab, the daughter of a Washington Episcopal minister, recalled recently in the Washington Times:

"There was one Sunday when our competent sexton dealt with a disturbance during my father's sermon. A strident, male voice shouted from the congregation, 'Amen! The Lord's name be praised!' Moments later these exclamations were followed by two hallelujahs. After that no more was heard. Following the service, the elderly sexton told my father how he had silenced the man."

"He told me, Reverend, he was getting religion and he had to shout out. I told him, well you can't get it in here. This is an Episcopal Church. Be quiet."

§

I have to run now, especially since I must leave enough time in the day to figure out the following AP story:

"Roxanne Pulitzer filed suit against the New York Post yesterday, asking \$10 million damages for a Post article reporting that Mrs. Pulitzer testified in her divorce trial that she slept with a trumpet."

Sometimes, I think I better get out of this business.



DCN/CPF

# IN SEARCH OF THE TROUBLED SUBURB

Frank Viviano

Until recently, the people of Northampton, Mass., felt pretty smug about their apparent good fortune.

In the midst of a recession that brought hard times to so many other New England towns, this Connecticut Valley community of 30,000 was experiencing a modest boom. Businesses were flourishing in its freshly rehabilitated Victorian downtown. Young professionals were relocating here from elsewhere in the region. The town's largest industrial employer was dramatically expanding its staff and facilities.

Then, this summer, a grim report arrived from the Rand Corporation.

On the strength of a highly publicized \$200,000 study commissioned in 1979 by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the influential think tank had concluded that Northampton faced serious social and economic problems. In fact, it was one of America's most "troubled suburbs."

If Northamptonites were surprised at this unexpected diagnosis, they were not alone. Of more than 6,000 U.S. communities studied by Rand, the list of the nation's troubled also included Shaker Heights, long considered the most exclusive district of greater Cleveland; Evanston, the refined lakefront suburb on Chicago's north side; Cambridge, Massachusetts, home of Harvard and M.I.T.; Newton, which boasts that state's highest property values; and Berkeley, the sunny student utopia on San Francisco Bay.

The social and economic reasons cited by the think tank for such dubious distinction varied from place to place. In Northampton's case, Rand pointed out that the town ranked among the rock bottom 50 U.S. communities in five critical areas: It was ridden with an aging housing stock and a disproportionate number of elderly citizens; there was far too little new construction; population growth was a problem and per capita income was dangerously low.

Whatever the self-satisfaction of these townsfolk, they ought to have been worried. The Rand data proved it. Or did they?

"It sure bothered the hell out of me at first," says Northampton mayor David Musante. "Then I took a closer look at their statistics."

Where Rand found a disturbingly aged housing stock, for instance, the mayor saw one of Northampton's most valuable assets. "Sure we have old houses here—after all, we were founded in 1654," he said. "And anyone who owns a colonial house in Massachusetts will tell you that it doesn't reflect poverty."

As for low per capita income, the Northampton Daily Hampshire Gazette observed the obvious in an editorial devoted to the study: The town serves thousands of students from some of the nation's most expensive institutions. Smith College, alma mater of Nancy Reagan and Julie Nixon Eisenhower, is located here. Amherst, Mount Holyoke and Hampshire Colleges are close by. Affluent by any standards, most of these young people statistically earn no income at all.

Finally, added Gazette editor Edward K. Shananhan, "we take it as a positive sign that there is a large elderly population here. People like this community and don't feel obliged to leave. . . . This is a hometown with all that implies."

It would be comforting to conclude that the Northampton confusion was the exception, a single oversight in an otherwise accurate picture of deteriorating U.S. communities. But the fact is that it is no worse than myriad other examples in the Rand study.

The per capita income fallacy applied to this Massachusetts college town applies equally to Cambridge, Berkeley and Evanston, as well as to several more campus communities which turned up on the troubled list.

The mayor of Newton, Theodore Mann, not only shares David Musante's view that old buildings are far from a liability in an era of gentrification; he also has a ready explanation for the fact, cited by Rand, that the average educational level of his constituents did not rise appreciably over a 10-year period. "Newton's [average] was already one of the highest in the country, so its

percentage increase could not be that great," said Mann.

Surely the hazards of research based entirely on computer profiles, rather than actual community contact, played a part in Rand's conclusions. Officials in several of the listed towns said that, as far as they knew, Rand experts neither made field visits to their areas, nor called to verify data.

"As a study of any individual place, such as Northampton, the report is clearly inadequate," commented Rand researcher Judith Fernandez, who co-authored the study. "Our intention was to look at as many places as possible, and you can't go everywhere in person. We had to depend on patterns of data instead. It is certainly possible that when you look at them in depth, some of these communities should not be on our list."

HUD spokeswoman Jackie Conn said that the federal government currently "has no plans to use the study for any specific purpose, and perhaps never will. It has gone into our research bank; if at some time we think we might need the data, we can pull it out."

But used or not, the Rand report raises some disturbing questions beyond the excessive dependence on computers. For hidden in its welter of statistics lie bleak assumptions about what is healthy—and what is not—in American community development.

Shaker Heights, Berkeley, Evanston and dozens of other places on the Rand list appeared there, in part, because of increases in the percentage of black or Hispanic residents. "Problem populations," Rand called them.

The suggestion, in sum, is clear: The ideal suburb is not only brand new, well-heeled and unencumbered by the elderly. It is also white.

There is no disputing that some American suburbs are in deep trouble; or even that Northampton, despite its comforts, has real problems of its own. But the greater danger facing U.S. society may be a conception of the ideal community which leaves so little room for diversity.

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## CHUCK STONE

When Staunton Ellsworth Smith Perkins found a devil in a theologically unlikely place, he was so surprised he dashed off a book.

"By and large, the black church is the No. 1 ripoff in the black community," charges the self-described "energetic, enterprising young man" in his book "Satan in the Pulpit."

"But it doesn't have to be that way," he quickly qualifies as if suffering an acute attack of guilt.

His remorse lasts all of two pages.

"Stealing in the Name of the Lord" is the next chapter's title.

Perkins never offers a shred of evidence to back up the book title's accusation that Mephistopheles is preaching every Sunday.

Instead, Perkins focuses on economics, not theology.

"The Mother church is the wealthiest institution in the black community. She is worth \$10 billion plus in real estate alone.

"What does Mother do with all of this wealth? Practically nothing in terms of enhancing the economic growth, development and strength of the black community." Perkins' next indictment is more universal than racial.

"When we examine the activity of the black church, we see that she is, on the whole, building monuments, lavishing her priests, meeting and socializing, looking at the misery and disadvantage of her people with askant eyes and continuing to try to be white."

But in the hyperbolic mud of his mines are a few gems of truth.

"Again, when I was growing up in the black community, I soon became aware, as did many of my peers, that there were mainly two types of people that rode around in big cars. . . . One of them was the underworld types—the pimps and successful hustlers. Their big 'hogs' (Cadillacs) were distinguishable from those of other types because they were usually decked with fancy and sometimes gaudy extra features. The other types, usually of more subdued color, style and appearance, were the preachers."

Then Perkins fakes out the reader with an astonishing 180-degree turn.

"The black church in America in all of its many variations has served as a catalyzing agent in the greatest struggle any group of human beings has had to experience.

"Today this resilient institution stands at the core of America's greatest ethnic group. . . . There is nothing more organized in the black community than the church. . . . If anything is going to be done with any degree of broad success, it has to be done with the participation or cooperation of the church."

"The minister or preacher has been the leader where there was no other leader.

"From the religious community came some of the movement's front-line leaders—Dr. Martin Luther King and Minister Malcolm X, foremost among them."

Heavenly Father, what in the hell ever happened to "Satan in the Pulpit?"

Understandably, Perkins worships his black church, his effusive introduction acknowledges the pivotal role black ministers have played in his personal growth.

In the back of the book are pictures of Perkins with several nationally distinguished black ministers.

So after misleading his readers by implicitly concluding that Satan is more inside the black minister than black people, Perkins offers a 10-point black economic self-help program.

And that is one of the two great values of this provocative book.

Perkins calls on the black church, i.e., the people, to make an accounting of their wealth and utilize the specialized talents of church members for its development.

- Establish short-, medium- and long-range investment plans to buy up major or controlling stock in area companies which have an impact on the black community.

- Deposit all church funds in black-owned banking, lending and investment institutions.

- Monitor investments over the years to ensure that they increase the church's and the community's financial productivity.

The book's other outstanding value is the dialogue being generated within the black community over his controversial title and statements.

Perkins has appeared on the Phil Donahue and Tony Brown television shows.

After his appearance on the Tony Brown show, listeners called in as part of a national survey. Only 20 percent said that the black church was doing enough to help the black community.

Although the title of Perkins' book is misleading, it's a book which has been crying out for publication.

Black people following black leaders who preen instead of produce are to blame for their sorry plight.

Satan is inside them as much as he is inside their leaders.

The black community's journey to the heaven of economic self-sufficiency will be speeded tenfold if it follows the agenda laid out in "Satan in the Pulpit."

[Philadelphia Daily News]

# THE GAZETTE BOOKSHELF

**THE ESSENTIAL EARTHMAN:** Henry Mitchell on Gardening. This is not just another book on gardening but the thoughts of an enthusiast who comes to the subject with reverence, passion, humor and a sober knowledge of human frailty. The Essential Earthman believes, for example, "a lawn 17 by 20 feet is just fine, if you think a lawnless life is not worth living \*\*\* But I suspect many gardeners would do well to think of something besides grass and the little noisy juggernauts you cut with." This is a collection of many of Mitchell's most popular pieces from the Washington Post. \$12.95

**CHESAPEAKE:** James A. Michener. This is, of course, the book that was the first work of fiction in ten years to make it to the number one spot in the New York Times's best seller list. But its subject matter gives it even greater appeal to those in the Washington area. A fine novel and a way to learn more about our bay. \$3.95

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**THE RIF SURVIVAL HANDBOOK:** How to Manage Your Money if You're Unemployed. John May has written a book about the money side of unemployment and the search for a new job. It shows you how to organize yourself to make ends meet, to handle your cash to gain confidence in yourself and to free yourself to concentrate on what's really important: finding a new job. Covers the field from budgeting to borrowing to bankruptcy. John May is president of a financial planning and management consulting firm that advises government and private organizations. He has run RIF seminars at agencies and organizations for workers losing their jobs. \$4.95.

## Flotsam & Jetsam

A BOOK LENGTH collection of essays by editor Sam Smith culled from 15 years of the DC Gazette (and a few other places). Topics cover a wide field including, trains, England, music, home computers, football, the humanities, pumping iron, Benjamin Franklin, corruption, ghostwriters, on turn-forty, Martin Luther King and words and meaning. If you have enjoyed the Gazette, we believe you will find this collection appealing, not to mention your friends who may never have become acquainted but might be interested. Only \$2.00.

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# CHARLES MCDOWELL

The Gallup Poll has been trying for years to make us think about the people's attitude toward Congress. There is an astonishing story of public inattention and inconsistency where Congress is concerned.

As it happens, a Gallup Poll on the subject is at hand. Of a sample of 1,500 voting-age Americans, only 46 percent could name the member of Congress representing their district.

Well, you might say, they must have polled a bunch

of dummies. No, it was a good sample in terms of education, income, age and all the other demographic considerations that pollsters have to worry about. It was us, all right, and more than half of us didn't know our congressman's name.

Fifty-two percent of college-educated people could name their congressman, as against 45 percent of those who didn't go beyond high school and 40 percent of those who didn't go beyond grade school.

Fifty percent of Republicans knew the name, 47 percent of Democrats and 44 percent of independents. Among people not registered to vote, only 26 percent knew the name.

Fifty percent of men and 43 percent of women could name their congressman or congresswoman.

The numbers go on like that. No group looked good in this simple test of political awareness.

Age turned out to be an interesting and depressing factor. Only 29 percent of people under 30 knew who rep-

resented them in Congress. The 30-49 age group got up to 52 percent. And the wise old heads over 50 scored 55 percent.

I liked the regional numbers. You know about the sleepy, unsophisticated South? In fact, the South led the nation with a score of 52 percent. That's not very high, but it beat the 50 percent in the earnest Midwest, the 47 percent in the smug East and the appalling 33 percent who knew the name of their congressman in the bumptious West, which is so full of talk about reforming American politics in its own image.

But enough of that. Let's get on to another question in the Gallup Poll. Everyone in the sample was asked (in mid-June) if he or she approved or disapproved of the way Congress was handling its job.

The result was that 29 percent approved, 54 percent disapproved and 17 percent had no opinion. This was in tune with a trend over many years—the public's opinion of Congress is very low, down there with used-car dealers and news reporters.

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**THE DEATH AND LIFE OF MALCOLM X:** By Peter Goldman. For this second edition of a major work on one of the most important black leaders of this century, the author, a senior editor of Newsweek, has added a substantial epilogue which argues convincingly that three of the five accomplices in Malcolm X's assassination in 1965 are still free, while a fourth is serving a short sentence for an unrelated offense. Meanwhile, despite the efforts of William Kunstler and others, two men who are probably innocent remain in prison "wasted like pawns sacrificed in somebody else's wild chess game," as one of them puts it. ~~\$7.95~~ ~~\$6.95~~ ~~\$5.95~~ **\$3.00**

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Yet this is the same electorate that can't muster a majority that even knows the name of its congressman. (Somehow that might be partly the news media's fault, although we are criticized most often for giving too much coverage to Congress, not too little.)

There is one more item that matters in this poll. This one, too, reflects a trend of many years. The people who could name their congressman were asked whether they approved or disapproved of the job he was doing. Sixty-nine percent approved!

This remarkable level of approval of the local congressman ran right through the demographic groups without significant variation.

As all sorts of other polls have shown, the local con-

gressman tends to be respected. To some degree this respect is extended to a member of Congress the voter disagrees with and even plans to vote against.

What we are saying as an electorate is that our guy is all right, we know him (or anyway half of us do), and he tries hard; he looks out for the district and, all in all, we approve of him personally.

It is all those other congressmen and congresswomen who are so bad, so irresponsible, so lazy, so eager to please their districts with special-interest votes and pork-barrel projects.

What the polls are telling us is that our arrogance is as obvious as our ignorance.

Richmond Times-Dispatch

## ARTHUR HOPPE

Even now, a titanic, behind-the-scenes power struggle that could affect every living American is being waged between determined Pentagon strategists and defiant White House civil defense officials.

At issue is the administration's current proposal to spend \$4.2 billion on plans to evacuate 145 million Americans from 319 "high-risk" target cities.

In the first place, as Rear Admiral Mark Hawkins pointed out in his scholarly treatise, *A Bunch of Hogwash*, the mass evacuation would require three days' to a week's notice based on the Russians taking a posture which threatened a first nuclear strike.

"But what would prevent the Russians," demands Admiral Hawkins, "from taking a threatening posture, waiting until we have evacuated our cities of untold costs in time, effort, money and social dislocation, and then—

being the sly, untrustworthy rats they are—failing to launch the nuclear holocaust their posture had promised?

"Think of the billions of unraveled nerves in countless, endless traffic jams. Think of the millions of houseplants dying for lack of water. Think of the hundred thousand cartons of cottage cheese growing green fuzz in a hundred thousand refrigerators.

"After a dozen such evacuations," declares Hawkins, who knows what he's talking about, "the nation's moral fiber would be so sapped that America would knuckle under to Communism without a quiver."

What, then, is the answer? This is where Brigadier General Gar Smith, O.B.E., D.M.S.O. (retired), steps in with his top-secret Target Relocation Plan.

"Let's face facts," says this innovative strategist boldly. "The enemy has nothing against our cities per se.

Take San Francisco. Do the Soviets hate cable cars? Are they determined to eradicate Fisherman's Wharf? Why would the Russians want to convert Russian Hill into Russian Hollow?

"No, the reason San Francisco is a high-risk city is that it is surrounded by high-risk targets: the Oakland Army Base, the Livermore Radiation Laboratory, the Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Travis Air Force Base and the like.

"Thus, instead of spending \$4.2 billion temporarily removing the residents from high-risk target cities, think of how much more economical and practical it would be to permanently remove the targets from the residents."

Initially, top Pentagon officials opposed the Target Relocation Project. But when General Smith noted that they would be accused, like the PLO in Beirut, of hiding behind the skirts of innocent civilians, their dander was aroused and they accepted the challenge.

Still adamantly against even making the project public are a number of important congressmen, including Bagley Boodle (Dem-Gerbilford), an influential member of the House Armed Services Committee.

"The slogan of my whole re-election campaign," says Boodle privately, "is 'Boodle Brought You the Gerbilford Nuclear Weapons Arsenal!' And if the Pentagon now tells my constituents I made them a bunch of sitting ducks, I'm going to be one, too."

Also in dispute, even among advocates of the plan, is how far to relocate the targets from the cities. Lesser Pentagon planners have suggested moving the targets as far from the people as the White House wanted to move the people from the targets. This would put the Brooklyn Naval Shipyard in Utica, N.Y., which needs more jobs anyway.

General Smith, who invariably thinks big, however, proposes shifting all military facilities to the Midwestern grain belt. "If there's one place the Russians wouldn't want to devastate," he says, "it's America's wheatbowl."

Other strategists, more fearful of the fanatical Communist obsession with destroying our targets, are sug-

## LIFE & RELATED SUBJECTS

We should all be grateful that we have mathematics. For example, without mathematics, it would be almost impossible to figure out what size tip you should leave. Even with mathematics, this is very difficult. The mathematical formula for tipping, which was discovered by Sir Isaac Newton, states that the tip equals 15 percent of the bill, but unfortunately the bill is always \$17.43, and nobody has the vaguest idea what 15 percent of \$17.43 is. The finest brains in the country have been working on this problem for years, using large computers, and they have yet to come up with an answer. So most of us wind up tipping a random amount of money, usually \$3.50, which we increase slightly if the waiter performs an extra service, such as not spitting in the food. And that's just one of the ways we use mathematics in our everyday lives.

Mathematics got started in ancient Egypt, when the ancient Egyptians discovered the numbers Three and Eight. They used these numbers to develop the mathematical formulas for the pyramids, which were actually supposed to be spherical. Eventually people in other countries discovered more numbers, and today we have more than 10,000 of them.

After the discovery of numbers, the next major stride in mathematics came when the ancient Greeks discovered the hypotenuse. The Greeks used the hypotenuse to manufacture right triangles for export to other countries. Included free with each triangle was a copy of the famous Pythagorean Theorem (named for its discoverer, Bob Theorem), which states: "Some of the squares of the opposite sides are equal to 14.6 percent of your grossly adjusted annual unearned interest, unless there are two or more runners on base at the time." To this very day, children memorize the Pythagorean Theorem in school, which accounts for their behavior.

The ancient Greeks made so much money with the right triangle that they developed a whole line of mathematical items, such as the rhomboid, the diameter, the parabola, the hyperbole, the irrational number, the pentathlon, the cube, the really deranged number and the square root. In fact, the ancient Greeks developed all the really popular items; everything developed since then has failed miserably. Take algebra. I don't know who dreamed up algebra, but whoever it was obviously had a lot of time to waste, because it is utterly useless. In algebra class, day after day, the teacher would write something like this on the blackboard:

$$4X + 2 = 14$$

Then he would ask us what "X" stood for. It turns out that it stood for three, but how the hell were we supposed to know that? He was the one who dreamed up "X" in the first place, and it seemed grossly unfair for him to expect us to know what he was thinking of at the time. And to make matters worse, the next day he would have "X" equal some other number, such as four, depending on his mood. I spent an entire year in algebra class, and to this day I don't have the faintest notion what "X" stands for, which is why I hardly ever use it for anything.

Calculus is even worse. When I went to college, all of us freshmen had to take a semester of calculus. It was like a fraternity initiation. The professor, who wore a bow tie and grew up on another planet, would start the class with a statement like this: "Let us consider the problem of a helix uncoiling in N dimensions." He never told us why this was a problem, or why anybody would want to consider it

even if it was. He would merely turn around and start filling the blackboard with alien symbols, and he would keep it up until it was time to leave. Every now and then he would give us a test, and I always got a zero. In fact, "zero" was the only mathematical concept I ever understood in calculus class.

I decided to quit calculus the day I stabbed myself in the head with Jeff White's pencil. Jeff sat next to me in class, and to amuse ourselves while the professor was writing alien symbols on the blackboard we would play childish pranks on each other. One day Jeff tried to knock my books off my desk, so I grabbed them with one hand and, with the other hand, snatched Jeff's pencil, which I attempted to break by smashing it against my head, only I didn't get the angle right, so I ended up driving the point into my skull, where it broke off. This created quite a commotion, but the professor was deeply engrossed in the problem of a trapezoid rotating in Y dimensions, and he didn't even notice the problem of a student with a pencil point lodged in his skull. So Jeff and I just got up and walked over to the infirmary.

The nurse was very suspicious. She said: "Are you telling me that you stabbed yourself in the head with a pencil?" Then she looked very suspiciously at Jeff. Jeff said, defensively: "Really. He stabbed himself." And the nurse said: "Why would anybody stab himself with a pencil?" And so I stared suspiciously at Jeff, and said: "Yeah, why would I stab myself with a pencil?"

Anyway, the nurse got the pencil-point out of my skull, but I didn't go back to calculus class ever again. Jeff dropped out of college a short while later, although I'm pretty sure this had nothing to do with the pencil incident. I suspect it had a lot more to do with calculus.

Feature Associates

DAVE BARRY

gesting they be relocated among our Canadian friends or our loyal Mexican allies. And there are even those who think every American military base, yard, arsenal, and silo should be shipped to Russia so that, if the Soviets did launch a first strike, they would blow themselves up.

But this, of course, is utopianism run amok. And the best we can hope for at present is relocating the Brooklyn Naval Shipyard in Utica. Anyway, it's a target to shoot for.

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## THE PRESS

### Bob Alperin

When veteran reporter Sarah McClendon persistently prodded Reagan about a Justice Department report on federal laws discriminating against women, the *Washington Post's* news conference coverage ignored it. A day later 38" of photos and text focused on her style and reactions to it. The Federal page examined Reagan's boast that no past administrations ("certainly not the last") had appointed so many women to high posts. It found the claim wasn't "backed up by the numbers." The two stories weren't cross-referenced.

After the administration allowed access to the report (take notes, but no copying!) the *Post* had 19" on its contents, ignoring a point covered by UPI (*Philadelphia Inquirer*). The General Services Administration would revise its handbook and 18 other publications which portrayed males "as supervisors or in leadership positions, while females appear only as secretaries."

The *Post's* last paragraph had an unrelated story: the administration seeks a western site for an international economic conference next year.

Network News obtained the original report and the *Inquirer* and *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* ran their story on sections allegedly deleted. These included suggestions that social security benefits give improved protection for women who combine homemaking with paid employment, a section on the growing number of women below the poverty line, and references to former President Carter. Another section noted women earned 60% of what men do working full-time and suggested that some of the differential was explained by employment discrimination or schools which didn't prepare women for employment or channeled them into lower paying occupations.

Reagan gave the example of the 50 States Project as an effort for women's rights. Network News checked into its operations and found a sham. The new director was still trying to compile a membership list. In the 16 states that didn't ratify ERA "many" governors' information officers couldn't name their state's representative. (Alabama had "no person like that.")

\*\*\*

The *Post* gleefully reported that the Rev. Moon-funded *Washington Times* scratched their own very critical review of the Moon-financed film "Inchon." But the *Post* Ombudsman revealed that his paper didn't print a tip that the *Times* would use a similar *New York Times* review. It was only from the AP (*Miami Herald, Inquirer*) that I learned the *Washington Times* had run its own 57-word acid summary. It noted "Puerile dialogue, perfunctory acting, and haphazard construction" and said Olivier's acting was his "nadir."

\*\*\*

A lengthy *Miami Herald* report on the *Washington Times* suggested that the paper's quest for credibility made it not a "robust voice of conservatism" but "merely dull." The paper's conventional news approach and efforts at professional standards caused 15 of the original 44 national and local staffers to leave or transfer to other jobs. Most were Moonies the editors thought "not competent enough."

\*\*\*

The *Post* ran a lengthy Reuter feature on liberalization in Equatorial Guinea but the headline read "Charter Vote in Guinea..." The two are different, geographically distant African states.

\*\*\*

For a paper dedicated to giving the public what it wants, it's puzzling that *USA TODAY's* first month had

## ITEM: SESAME STREET'S FIRST VIEWERS NOW IN COLLEGE



"NOW KIDS, LET'S SING ABOUT THE INDETERMINACY OF THE VELOCITY OF SUB-ATOMIC PARTICLES ..."

no crosswords, bridge columns, horoscopes, or comics. Its first issue was faithful to its professed values. Page one was dominated by the Malagva air crash and Princess Grace's death. The murder of Lebanon's president-elect made page nine.

\*\*\*

The *Post* ran one brief item on the eight-day International Cancer Congress in Seattle. It noted cancer and coffee were unrelated, and that blacks were less likely than whites to survive cancer. The poor were more likely to put off seeing doctors and thus delay diagnosis. As the fuller AP story (*Inquirer*) made clear, poverty not race was the operative factor. Middle-class people regularly receive effective diagnostic tests for three cancers (breast, cervix, colon) while the poor see doctors only for serious emergencies and seldom receive diagnostic tests. Medicaid didn't pay for routine screening. (By implication, both the *Post* snippet and the *Inquirer* headline equate black with poor.)

The *Post* also ignored these wire service stories:

- If done in the earliest stage, lung cancer surgery produces five-year survival rates in the 65-85% range world-wide (UPI, *Herald*).
- A British researcher complained that US medicine ignores prevention: he wants a big push against smoking and education about proper diet (*Herald*, AP).
- Panelists suggested more attention to the quality of life for the victims and their families rather than merely counting survivors (*Inquirer*).
- Radical mastectomy is no longer appropriate for most women with breast cancer (UPA, *Globe*, *Herald*, *Inquirer*).
- A summary article (UPA, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*) noted increased emphasis on identifying causes and prevention. Lifestyle, particularly diet, loomed as very important. In the US 45% of the newly-discovered cases can survive five years, and of those 86% can expect another 20 years.
- Low-tar cigarettes sharply reduce risk of death from smoking-related illness but users still took a "much greater risk" than non-smokers. Smoking less was a better strategy than switching to low-tars and maintaining frequent usage (AP, *Herald*). Earlier the *London Sunday Times* gave extensive space to a Toronto study which found low-tars may produce 35 times more tar than is realized. In actual use (but not on government testing machines), smokers' fingers or lips cover the small ventilation holes around the filter. The Toronto study used a machine including this human factor.

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• Tests on mice and rats found that some chemicals in common foods block the action of environmental cancer-causers before they do damage in the breast, lung, and colon. The strategy is similar to that using starch-blockers (*Prince George's Journal*, *Scripps-Howard*).

The *Post* gave a lucid explanation of the American Cancer Society's forthcoming survey of over a million

persons, but (unlike the *Inquirer*) never revealed the study was the object of strong criticism. Prof. Samuel Epstein (author of *The Politics of Cancer*) said the ACS is "preoccupied with diagnosis and treatment" and little understood preventive medicine. He wants the ACS to push for more regulation of air, water, and chemical pollutants, and—aside from smoking—downplays personal habits as a factor in cancer.

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Some stories the *Post* didn't run:

- The GSA auctioned 109 boats impounded during the 1980 Cuban boatlift (*Herald*).
- Italian police said 40 arrests had cracked the Armed Revolutionary Nucleus, a right-wing terrorist group. One suspect was being quizzed on the 1980 train station bombing that killed 85. The *USA TODAY* article noted that, although the media focused on the leftist Red Brigades rightists did many political assassinations in the past three years.
- A Dresdener Bank statement reported that a Western bankers committee and Polish officials had agreed on a plan to restructure Poland's 1982 debt. (The *Post* had carried many Polish debt stories.)
- Bones of over 1000 Khmer Rouge massacre victims found in a Cambodian village (*Herald*).
- Former Secretary of State Haig called Reagan's Mideast peace plan a "very serious mistake." (*N.Y. Times*, *Sun*).
- A small Iowa college dropped classes for about 150 Saudi students after repeated episodes of vicious physical attacks and acts of vandalism against the Saudis. Apparently their dating local girls was the problem (*Reuter*, *Sun*).
- Criminal justice officials and researchers met at the U. of Maryland for the National Conference on Repeat Offenders. The *Post*, which produced vivid series on the DC police and the Prince Georges Detention Center, chose to ignore wider perspectives. Channel 7 gave it considerable time.
- A federal study (blood samples from 27,801) found blacks tended to have higher levels of lead in their bodies than whites of similar backgrounds, regardless of income level or city or country living. In all families earning \$15,000 or more, 1% of the members had elevated lead levels compared to 11% in those with incomes below \$6,000 (*Sun*-front page, *Inquirer*). In central cities among preschoolers the elevated lead levels were: blacks 19%, whites 5%.
- 15,000 gallons of contaminated waste was dumped on a Florida cattle pasture when a sink at the St. Lucie, Fla. nuclear power plant was connected to the sewer system rather than the radiation waste treatment system. After four years the sink backed up, revealing the problem. The waste was said to be no threat to health (*Herald*).
- An *Inquirer* story on the undamaged Three Mile Island plant revealed it's one of the eight the Nuclear

Regulatory Commission considers most vulnerable in its steel walls.

- A UPA (*Globe*) story noted that in Tennessee, the first state with a child restraint law, auto accident injuries were down 30% in two years, and deaths 55%. Deaths from cycle accidents were up about 50% in states that repealed or weakened helmet laws.

- Texas A&M scientists make hydrogen fuel from water at a 13% efficiency rate. Experts say a 10% rate would make it economically feasible. The pollution-free fuel could eventually power cars and planes and be used in home solar plants. (AP, *Inquirer*, 15")

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When Brazil and Venezuela spoke to the UN General Assembly, the *Post* focused almost entirely on their criticism of the UN, yet it noted the "bulk" of Brazil's speech was on the need to liberalize international trade and monetary policies. The *Herald's* (*LA Times*) emphasis echoed that of the speakers: economics.

*Post* headline: "Mexican Leader Tells U.N. About Problems with Debts." The story ignored his "scathing attack" on the rich nations, the interference of transnational corporations, the growing concentration of financial facilities, wealth and power, and the colonial pattern of domination which "had even been reinforced" (AP, *Herald*, *Globe*).

The *Herald* compared the views of Brazil and Mexico with that of US Assistant Secretary of State Enders who blamed Latin debt problems on governments' overspending. A *N.Y. Times* overview saw "a sharp break with tradition" as economics replaced peace as the central concern in the annual UN foreign policy addresses.

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- Both the Miami *Herald* and *Post* had football preview sections. The *Herald* analysed all major college conferences, using writers from each area. The *Post* did the ACC. The *Herald* had rosters of the Dolphins, U. of Miami, Florida, and Florida State. They listed players by position, height, weight, years played pro or college class, and pro's college or college players' hometown. The *Post* had no rosters. Later, an opening-day, Red-skin roster had numbers, position—that's all.

In the heat of the baseball pennant races, the *Post* at least twice had inaccurate National League West standings, then let it happen in the AL West. Past hockey standing errors have lasted longer.

The *Post* complains that the National Hockey League fails to crack down on violence yet when several new anti-brawl measures were passed, the paper reported on one, and that only briefly in small print (UPI, *Hartford Courant*).

With a baseball strike past, and a football strike pending, the *Post* ignored the settlement between NHL players and owners (*Globe* staff). It also missed the National Labor Relations Board ruling that Seattle's release of its player representative was related to his football union activity (AP, *Globe*).

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Seven Mideast stories the *Post* ignored:

- Lebanon's army denied it refused to enter the Palestinian camps. An entry date was set but the massacre started two days before it. Israel claimed the army refused, so the Christian militia was allowed in. (*Los Angeles Times*)

- The unit which did the massacre and its commander are known in Lebanon but public revelations might end the delicate political balance and start new violence (*LA Times*).

- A State Dept. advisory group recommended a Palestinian state in Gaza and the West Bank with the capital in part of Jerusalem. Leaked in March, the report was ignored here but not in Israel (AP, *Inquirer*).

- The US exported grenades for cluster bombs to Israel after Reagan banned the shipments (CBS, AP, *Sun*, *Herald*, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*). A P-D followup provided much detail and a State assurance "it was an honest mistake," the same explanation for the shipment of shock batons to South Africa without consulting State.

- An article in the World Zionist Organization's theoretical journal argues that the Arab states' borders are artificial products of colonial days and that each country has mutually hostile minorities and ethnic groups. Israel should exploit this and seek to divide Egypt, the Arabian peninsula, Syria and Iraq. Jordan ought to be under Palestinian rule with Palestinians under Israeli control encouraged to go there (*Village Voice*).

- A post-Beirut massacre poll measured Israeli satisfaction with job performance: Begin 72%, Sharon 64% (*NY Times*). The *Post* gave much space to Begin's Israeli critics.

- Rev. Jerry Falwell reaffirmed his support for Israel. (*Inquirer*, UPI: *Trentonian*).

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When Begin met with 4,000 Christian fundamentalists, the *Post* focused on their press release containing some criticism of Israel, ignoring their standing ovation for Begin. Many Christian churches, long active in the Holy Land, sympathize with the Palestinians (*Sun*).

One day the *Post* news section had six stories covering about 260" on Israel-related news. The final 2" of one lengthy story noted there were Arab protests and a general strike in the occupied territories in Galilee. The last sentence noted 12 Arabs were shot. According to Begin's Arab affairs adviser, Benjamin Gur-Arye, the strike to protest the Beirut massacre was 90% effective, reaching more areas than the *Post* noted. AP (*Inquirer*) noted these were the most widespread and violent protests by Israeli Arabs since those against the 1976 "massive Israeli takeovers of Arab land."

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In protest for having to give their secret police files to the political parties, Portugal's military gave journalists an afternoon to see them. A top secret 1972 report from Angola told of Savimbi's claim that his UNITA had ambushed an MPLA unit. He asked Portugal for arms, ammo, syringes, medicine, and safe passage through its lines. At the time he was supposedly fighting Portuguese colonialism (Reuters, *Egyptian Gazette*). Now the MPLA rules Angola and Savimbi fights with South African aid.

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The *Post* spoke of a "little-noticed" communique from African leaders rejecting the US effort to link Namibian independence to Cuban troops departing from Angola. It noted "tension increased" from South Africa's incursion into Angola. Death and destruction also increased, but the *Post* continues to ignore or play down both such attacks into Angola, and African views on the Namibian negotiations.

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Donald Wood, the banned, exiled South African journalist, challenged SA to prosecute two security police whom he named for the 1977 death in detention of Black leader Steve Biko. Woods says there's new evidence and

that the inquest produced much evidence even though certain police telex messages couldn't be subpoenaed nor could the police minister be asked about them (*London Observer*).

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Parents of South African political prisoners presented 70 statements by ex-detainees detailing accusations of "systematic and widespread torture" including beating, electric shock, and attacks on the genitals. Police named included officers to the rank of major. Only a few of the alleged torture victims were ever convicted of anything, most were never formally charged. It was probably the most-documented attack ever on the detention system (Reuters, *Globe*).

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South Africa's highest court said the government exceeded its authority when it tried to transfer parts of Zululand to Swaziland, thus reducing SA's black population by about 900,000. The Court took apartheid's grant of power to the homelands seriously, saying that blacks had not been consulted (UPI, *Inquirer*). This and the above story appeared the same day. The *Post-Dispatch* had both (*Sun*, *NY Times*). The *Post* had neither but did have a brief on a \$11.5 million gold and platinum heist.

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In a historic event, 123 Afrikaner ministers called for racial equality, saying apartheid can't be defended scripturally. The *Post*, using the same AP story, had less coverage than the *Sun*, *NY Times* or *Washington Times*. It didn't mention the separate black, mixed-race, and Indian branches of the Dutch Reformed Church, present comments on the statement, note that the main church among blacks was the Methodist, or report that the racial laws required races to live in designated neighborhoods. AP missed some big points. The ministers' statement was in *Die Kirkbode*, an official Dutch Reformed Church publication. The hierarchy had refused to put their statement on the agenda of the October Synod (*Rand Daily Mail*, Johannesburg).

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## New Study Underscores Value of the F.O.I.A.

Since the Freedom of Information Act was enacted in 1967, thousands of people have utilized the open access law to monitor government policies and programs, to aid in research and news reporting, and to better understand how the federal bureaucracy works. Now, for the first time, a new Campaign for Political Rights study details how consumers, business, scholars, journalists, state officials, lawyers, unions and political activists have used the FOIA—and how many FOIA disclosures have benefitted the public.

**Former Secrets: Government Records Made Public Through the Freedom of Information Act** was written for the Campaign for Political Rights by Evan Hendricks, Editor of *Privacy Times*. The 200-page study lists 500 cases of FOIA disclosures in ten areas:

**Consumer Product Safety** Consumer groups have used records obtained through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to force the recall or banning of such unsafe, defective products as exploding Pinto gas tanks, defective Firestone steel-belted radial tires, and two carcinogens, Red Dye #2 and Chlороform. FOIA disclosures have prompted closer scrutiny from Congress and federal agencies on airline safety procedures, health care and in the context of infant formula.

**Drug Safety and Government Behavior Control** The FOIA has enabled public interest groups, the press and others to obtain data submitted by companies on ineffective or unsafe drugs. For example, the drug Phenformin was banned by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) shortly after a consumer group filed a lawsuit based on disclosure of records on the drug's harmful effects. The FOIA has also informed the public about drug testing programs by federal agencies and state prisons; FOIA records on CIA mind control research led to the publication of John Marks' *In Search of the Manchurian Candidate*.

**Environment and Nuclear Power** FOIA disclosures have contributed a great deal to what is currently known about the hazards of nuclear waste disposal, pesticide spraying and chemical dumping. States such as New Mexico, Mississippi and Utah have used the FOIA for these purposes. Documents released on atomic fallout to Utah Governor Scott Matheson revealed that government officials knew of the health dangers, including cancer, of the 1950's atomic testing in Nevada, but publicly insisted there was no danger. Use of the FOIA has also enabled environmental groups to discover hundreds of nuclear plant accidents.

**Fraud, Waste and Government Corruption** Public interest groups across the political spectrum have used the FOIA to expose waste and fraud in the government. After a four-year court battle, Common Cause obtained Air Force documents on the ten largest defense contractors; the documents showed that these companies had charged the government more than \$2 million in questionable lobbying expenditures.

**Civil and Labor Rights** Blacks, hispanics and native Americans have used the FOIA to battle racial discrimination in employment, education and housing. The Act has also been used by women's groups fighting sexual discrimination, and by the mentally and physically impaired to monitor enforcement of government programs.

**Business** Critics of the FOIA have charged that businesses mainly use the Act to obtain their competitors' trade secrets. But FOIA professionals within the government say their agencies are careful to avoid such disclosure. This debate over trade secrets has actually obscured many important ways in which businesses have used the FOIA. For example, according to the Defense Department's 1981 annual report, 55% of the Department's FOIA requests last year came from business concerns, including many small businesses that use FOIA to acquire technical data from the Defense Department in order to bid competitively on government contracts.

**History** FOIA disclosures have resulted in numerous books, articles, and reports that have chronicled important chapters in contemporary history. Some titles included: Stephen Schlesinger and Stephen Kinzer's recent *Bitter Fruit: The Untold Story of the American Coup in Guatemala*; William Shawcross' *Sideshow: Kissinger, Nixon and the Destruction of Cambodia* and Walter Le Feber's *Panama Canal*.

**Foreign Affairs and Defense** Information gleaned from the government through the FOIA has expanded public knowledge about the 1969 Cambodia bombing, military sales to Central America, CIA assassination plots, the People's Temple Massacre in Jonestown and many other foreign affairs and defense matters. Details of army tests of atomic weapons in the 1950's and of Agent Orange during the Vietnam War have been released to veterans through the FOIA.

**Government Intrusion into Political Activity** The widespread disclosures under the FOIA of government attempts to infringe upon democratic rights are perhaps the best proof of the need for public oversight. Beginning with NBC correspondent Carl Stern's request in 1971 for FBI counterintelligence program (COINTELPRO) documents, hundreds of journalists, academics, religious groups, political activists and other citizens learned they had been subjects of illegal government surveillance.

**Taxes** Disclosures under the FOIA have helped American taxpayers demystify many complex Internal Revenue Service (IRS) procedures. Tax analysts unearthed thousands of IRS documents revealing that the IRS had developed a "secret body of law" it did not want to share with outsiders. As a result, analysts compiled and indexed the materials, which are now routinely used by accountants and attorneys. — M.W.

—Organizing Notes

## Education

The range of educational attainment of heads-of-household is extreme in Ward 1 with a large proportion of non-high school graduates, 34 percent, and 28 percent with four or more years of higher education. Only wards 3 (65 percent) and 2 (40 percent) had higher proportions of heads of household at the upper education level.

In Ward 1, 44 percent of the household heads had completed some college, compared to 41 percent in the city, and 28 percent had completed four or more years, compared to 27 percent city wide. Yet despite the comparatively high education level, 34 percent of the Ward 1 heads of household had not completed high school.

## Employment

According to the 1979 D.C. Department of Employment Services estimates, the civilian labor force in the ward decreased by 7,000 persons or 15 percent. (The CLF data are for all persons over age 16 who are not in the military.) This decrease is equivalent to the 14 percent decrease in the population 18 to 64 years of age, the prime labor force years. The 1979 estimated number of employed, 34,700, was a decrease of 20 percent from the 1970 figure of 43,500. The citywide drop in the employed was 16 percent.

Ward 1 continues to register the highest unemployment rate among all eight wards as it did in 1970. Some 4,100 people were not employed in a CLF of 34,700 resulting in an unemployment rate of 10.6 percent. This is a higher rate than the 8.1 percent for the city as a whole and higher than any of the other wards which ranged from 5.3 percent in Ward 3 to 9.7 percent in Ward 8.

## Social Services

Data from 1979 on publicly funded social services show a moderate level of social service delivery in Ward 1. Food stamp cases numbered 4,304, accounting for 11.4 percent of such cases in the city. These cases included 9,384 persons or 11.9 percent of the ward's population, while the total number of food stamp recipients in the city equaled 15.1 percent of the city's population. Only wards 3 and 4 had a smaller proportion of their population receiving food stamps.

Cases of Aid to Families With Dependent Children (AFDC) in the ward numbered 3,794 or 12.4 percent

There were large drops in the number of children under 15 years, 23 percent. City wide, the number of children decreased more than 26.3 percent. Only wards 2 and 3 have fewer children. The middle aged, between 45 and 64 years, dropped 15.1 percent; the eldest group decreased less, only 9.0 percent.

The loss of population in the child rearing age group, 15 to 44, was less dramatic, 9.5 percent, but was greater than the citywide loss of 5.5 percent. Almost half of the population, 48.5 percent, is in this age group. Only Ward 8 had a higher proportion; wards 2, 5 and 7 were close.

## Household Composition

There were 32,500 households in Ward 1 in 1977, which was a 10.6 percent decrease since 1970. That loss was much greater than in the city as a whole, which had a decrease of only 2.3 percent, slightly larger than in Ward 2. Four wards actually had an increase in the number of households. (See table on page 15)

Smaller households are dominant in Ward 1, with 47 percent consisting of one person and 25 percent having two people, compared to 38 percent and 27 percent respectively for the city.

## Household Income

Incomes in Ward 1 as a whole are among the lowest in the city. The 1977 median household income in the ward was \$10,480 compared to the city median of \$12,580 and other wards, which ranged from \$11,150 in Ward 8 to \$22,050 in Ward 3. Nearly 70 percent of the households had incomes of less than \$15,000 in 1977, exceeded only by Ward 8 (71.8 percent).

In the same year only 12 percent of Ward 1 households had incomes of \$25,000 and over, and 4 percent over \$35,000; only wards 7 and 8 had smaller proportions in the higher income category.

The geographic distribution of incomes by census tract shows several areas with incomes at more than twice the ward average. The Kalorama-Sheridan area, at \$29,000, and the small portion of Woodley Park west of Rock Creek, at \$25,500 earn considerably more than the rest of the ward.

The southeast section of Adams-Morgan, Census Tract 40, at \$16,242, also is above both the ward and city average. In all other areas of Ward 1, household income was below the ward average.

of all D.C. cases. These cases covered aid to 10,471 people or 13.3 percent of the ward's population. This is almost the same as the 13.7 percent of all city residents receiving AFDC, and third lowest of all wards.

General Public Assistance (GPA) was relatively high in Ward 1, with 1,098 cases or 19.2 percent of all cases in the city. The 1,140 people covered by GPA was 1.4 percent of the ward population, higher than the 0.9 percent of all D.C. residents receiving such aid and second highest of all wards.

## Housing Tenure

The rate of home ownership in any given area is to an extent dependent on the type of housing in the area. High-rise or multi-unit stock tends to produce high proportions of renters, low proportions of owners. Over 78 percent of Ward 1's housing is in multi-unit structures; only Ward 2 has a higher proportion.

Of the occupied dwelling units in 1977 in the ward, 6,700, 21 percent, were owner-occupied, which is less than the citywide rate of 32 percent and lower than all areas except wards 2 and 8. Of the total number of owner-occupants in the city, only 8.2 percent was in Ward 1. Between 1970 and 1977, the number of owner-occupied units in Ward 1 increased by 700 or 12 percent, which was a higher rate of increase than the 10 percent city wide.

## Age of Housing

As might be expected, the housing in Ward 1 is considerably older than in the city as a whole. A part of the ward is in the boundary of the original city. Over 76 percent of the ward's housing was built before 1940.

## Households Moving

There was considerable turn-over in Ward 1. When the housing survey was taken in 1977, almost two-thirds (63.9 percent) had moved to their current address since 1970. Just under one-third (30.4 percent) had moved during the 12 months preceding the survey. This was one of the highest figures among the city's wards, exceeded only by Ward 2's 35.2 percent. Only 6.5 percent of Ward 1 households had been in their present home since before 1950, which is slightly more than the city as a whole but lower than for other wards.

Reasons for moving were recorded in the 1977

household survey, but are inconclusive because 19 percent of those sampled did not give a definable response. However the responses do show that 25 percent cited a need for more or better housing; 13 percent were displaced by private action; 11 percent established a new household; 8 percent had a change in family status; 6 percent bought their own residence; and 5 percent moved to get cheaper rent or a less expensive house.

## Parks, Open Space, Vacant Land

Parks and open space occupy 13 percent of the land in Ward 1. Banneker Park is a 12-acre active recreation complex that includes swimming, tennis and ball fields. The 12-acre Malcom X Park (formerly Meridian Hill) is a passive area with sculptured gardens and fountains. Other city-owned recreation areas are small, varying from one to five acres.

The newest park is the Community Park West at Calvert Street and Adams Mill Road. Small parks are proposed for the 14th Street Urban Renewal Area.

With only 87 acres (4.4 percent) of the ward undeveloped, Ward 1 has less vacant land than any of the other wards in the city. Of these, 44 acres are in the Shaw and 14 Street Urban Renewal areas.

## Future Development

Future development proposals are varied and include the following: A major mixed commercial and residential complex is planned on 14th Street between Irving and Monroe streets. The National

Rehabilitation Hospital is proposed between 13th, 12th, W and V streets. Stacked town houses are being developed near 16th and Oak streets.

The 14th Street, U Street and lower Seventh Street corridors will be served by subway stations at Columbia Heights, U Street and Shaw. New commercial and residential development is expected to follow subway opening, but specific plans for Metro station development at U Street and Shaw have not yet been prepared.

Howard University plans for expansion between 1981 and 1994 could include a 1.5 million-square-foot academic complex and a variety of other administration, dormitory and service facilities. The university owns land west of Georgia Avenue, where some development is likely. Ward 1 also is a focus for international agencies.

## Schools

A review of student enrollment data from 1970 and 1980 shows that elementary schools in the ward were operating below their capacity. Bruce-Monroe Elementary is the most under capacity, operating at 47 percent; Gage-Eckington operates at 49 percent of capacity. The remaining schools were operating at about 60 percent of capacity.

Junior high schools also had enrollments below their projected capacities. Lincoln Junior High is most under capacity at 55 percent. Banneker and Garnet-Patterson were operating at about 59 percent of their capacity. On the other hand, Cardozo High School, the only high school in the ward, is operating at 69 percent of its capacity.

Enrollment at all regular public school and career centers in Ward 1 decreased by 35 percent between 1970 and 1980. This was a loss of 4,780 students out of a 1970 total of 13,841 student population. Elementary schools lost 36 percent of their enrollment, with the greatest losses at Cooke (48 percent), followed by Parkview (45 percent), and Harrison (44 percent).

## Parks and Recreation

The local recreation system includes 52.5 acres in Ward 1. This is 3.9 percent of the citywide acreage (1,337 acres). DOR operates recreation programs at 12 locations on 33.3 acres of land in the ward.

Three additional centers for the elderly operate in public housing projects. Six areas are neighborhood open space, without any formal DOR operation. Ward 1 has 0.62 acres of recreation space with and without organized activity, per 1,000 population compared with 1.93 acres, the citywide average.

## Civic Associations and Community, Citizens and Other Organizations, 1981

**Bloomingdale Civic Association**  
William Lightfoot, President  
2111 Second Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
387-7368 (home)

**Central Northwest Civic Association**  
Marion E. Howard, Vice President  
2217 13th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
462-6865 (home)

**Kalorama Citizens Association**  
Lawrence F. Karr, President  
1916 Biltmore Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
387-3413 (home)

**LeDroit Park Civic Association**  
Lewis Chapman, President  
416 Elm Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
265-1692 (home)

**Midway Civic Association**  
Gladys S. Roberts, President  
1447 S Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
667-5572 (home)

**Pleasant Plains Civic Association**  
Dorothy J. Williams, President  
1014 Irving Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20010  
265-0942 (home)

**Mount Pleasant Citizens Association**  
Margaret A. Fischer, President  
1700 Lamont Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20010  
483-3404 (home)

**Dupont Circle Citizens Association**  
Joseph Grano, Jr., President  
1400 20th Street, N.W. Apt. 520  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
223-4254 (home)

**Sheridan-Kalorama Neighborhood Council**  
Fritz-Alan Korth, President  
1910 24th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
332-2525 (home)

**Cleveland Park Citizens Association**  
Arthur V. Meigs, President  
3224 Cathedral Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
333-4735 (home)

**Della Towers**  
Alice Davis, President  
1843 Park Road, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20010  
332-1843 (home)

**14th and U Streets Coalition**  
Edna Frazier-Cromwell, Chairperson  
C/O Saints Paul and Augustine Church  
1419 V Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
234-1786 (church) / 387-5478 (home)

**Columbia Heights Citizens Association**  
Mrs. Ernest W. Howard, President  
2929 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
462-6263 (home)

**Adams Morgan Organization**  
Lili Irvani, Executive Director  
2311 18th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
332-2628 (office)

**Change Incorporated**  
Archie Williams, Director  
3308 14th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20010  
387-3725 (office)

**Council of Hispanic Agencies**  
Marina Felix, Chairperson  
2433 18th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
387-4655 (office)

**People's Involvement Corporation**  
Andree Y. Gandy, Executive Director  
2146 Georgia Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
797-3900 (office)

**Barney Senior Center**  
Elizabeth Brooks-Evans, Director  
1737 Columbia Road, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
483-0160 (office)

**1900 16th Street Block Council**  
Charles Bien, President  
2022 16th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
332-1870 (home)

**Northwest Service Center - American Red Cross**  
Howard Spiegelman, Director  
2321 18th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
332-5520 (office)

**Columbia Heights Youth Club**  
Vincent Davis, Director  
16th and Harvard Streets, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
234-1531 (office)  
(services are also citywide)

**Garnet Neighborhood House**  
Harry Strothers, Director  
1718 16th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20010  
2-1354 (office)  
(services are also citywide)

**Valent Child Center**  
Lygid Caudle, Executive Director  
325 W Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
332-3375 (office)  
(included are two citywide programs)

**Woodley Park Citizens Association**  
Christopher Klose, President  
12750 Woodley Place, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
483-3755 (home)

**1500 T Street Block Council**  
Alva Abdussalaam, President  
1528 T Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
234-8209 (home)

**Lower Georgia Avenue Business and Professional Corporation**  
Calton N. West, Jr., President  
3102 Georgia Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20010  
726-0842 (office)

**Shaw Project Area Committee (PAC)**  
Abraham Mumin, Executive Director  
1726 Seventh Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
332-4800 (office)

**Ayuda, Inc.**  
1716 Columbia Road, N.W. Room 107  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
487-4848 (office)  
Legal services - Spanish-speaking staff is available

**14th Street Corridor Business Associates**  
Cornelius Pitts, President  
1451 Belmont Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
265-2025 (office)

**Mount Pleasant Neighbors**  
Gladys Mitchell, President  
1807-Kilbourne Place, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20010  
387-2576 (home)  
(activity is determined by current needs, otherwise operation is temporarily inactive)

**Neighborhood Watch Program**  
Sgt. Dennis Hyaler  
Fourth District Police Station  
6001 Georgia Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20011  
576-6723  
(Many community, business and individual participants and still growing)

**Police Boys and Girls Club**  
Officer Howard Lynch  
14th and Clifton Streets, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
673-6941 (office)  
(Hours of operation: Monday through Friday  
During School -- 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm;  
Summer -- 11:30 am to 7:00 pm;  
Saturdays -- 9:00 am to 5:00 pm;  
Sundays -- closed)

**Parkview Neighbors, Incorporated**  
Leroy Harris, President  
436 Manor Place, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20010  
829-1238 (home)

**Adams Morgan Community Development Corporation**  
Edward Jackson, President  
2460 Ontario Road, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009

**Columbia Heights Community Development Corporation**  
Harold Valentine, President  
3309 Sherman Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20010  
291-7287 (home)

**ANC - 1A Office**  
3511 14th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20010  
232-0175

**ANC - 1B Office**  
1851 Ninth Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
387-6830

**ANC - 1C Office**  
2311 18th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
332-2630

**ANC - 1D Office**  
1830 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
332-2394

**ANC - 1E Office**  
1827 Park Road, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20010  
232-0092

## Cleveland Park Woodley Park

The Washington chapter of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences in America will be holding its annual Christmas Bazaar at the Guy Mason Center on November 13 from noon to dusk. Featured will be pork roast flanked by dumplings and sweet/sour cabbage. Also available will be Prague-type sausages and pastries. Booths will sell Christmas ornaments, cards, dolls, log carriers, pot holders and lots more.

§

Neighborhood Commission 3C has granted \$1000 to the Hearst Recreation Council for play equipment, \$468 to the Cleveland Park Afterschool Program for art supplies, \$350 to Boy Scout Troop 46 for bus insurance, \$600 to the Woodley Place Elm Tree Association and \$600 to a program for gifted math students at Alice Deal. The commission has taken these other actions as well:

- Endorsed the planned expansion of the Newark Street Community Gardens.

- Requested that the Recreation Department place stairs from 39th St. up the slope to the tennis courts and install a water fountain at the Cathedral Heights playground.

- Worked with the Recreation Department to clear the area of old Fulton Park at Fulton and Tunlaw so it may be again used by local residents.

- Helped to get dead trees at the edge of Guy Mason Center removed.

- Obtained new nets for the Cathedral Heights Playground tennis courts.

§

Some 136 local citizens have submitted a petition to the Department of Recreation requesting metered night lighting for the tennis courts at the Cathedral Heights playground. DOR has made this request part of its future priority planning.

The Department of Transportation has issued a proposed regulation that would prohibit left hand turns out of the Friendship postal station.

§

The Department of Transportation has agreed to make 36th & Brandywine Sts. and all-way stop corner. The intersection is used by students from Murch and Wilson and there has been concern over the safety of their crossing.

§

## Chevy Chase

Neighborhood Commission 3G has awarded \$1000 to the Chevy Chase Foundation for beautification and benches, \$600 to the Alice Deal gifted math program; \$900 to Iona House, \$300 to the Chevy Chase playground and \$170 to the Lafayette playground.

## AU Park

ANC 3E has granted \$300 to the Fort Reno Youth Center, \$500 to Iona House, \$500 to the Lisner-Louise

Home, \$200 for an advanced math program at Alice Deal, \$200 to the Tenley Library Council, \$150 to Museum One; \$300 to Friendship Terrace, \$300 to Alice Deal for track equipment and \$500 to the Washington Hearing and Speech Society.

## Burleith-Glover Pk

ANC 3B has voiced from the outset opposition to the Georgetown University proposal to make the Canal Road entrance the main entrance to the University, a plan which would include the installation of a left-turn traffic control signal at the intersection of Canal Road and the entrance to the University.

It is said that the main goal of the Georgetown University plan is to decrease the current traffic and parking problems around the University. However, opponents argue that the addition of a traffic signal on Canal Road at the entrance to the University will create massive tie-ups and will only aggravate an already badly congested major traffic artery into the city.

Opposition to the proposal is wide-spread and includes ANC 3-D, the Palisades and Foxhall Citizens Associations and residents of the surrounding areas concerned about the adverse impact of new traffic congestion in and around their communities. These small, quiet residential areas are currently suffering from speeding

cars, noise pollution, blocked street traffic and unsafe conditions for pedestrians caused by commuters in search of alternate routes into the city to avoid major route back-ups. The proposed traffic light scheme at Canal Road can only increase the serious congestion problems for these areas.

In addition to the above arguments, other issues of concern have been raised:

- the lack of proper notice given to communities which might be impacted
- insufficient data gathered in Draft Environmental Assessment of potentially impacted streets—namely, lower MacArthur Blvd./Foxhall areas
- need to await findings of ongoing Whitehurst Freeway Study which will include Canal Road access to Georgetown University

—ANC 3B

ANC 3B has voted unanimously to support efforts of the Glover Park merchants and residents to fight renewal of Paragon Too's liquor license. Paragon Too is a disco located at 2233 Wisconsin Avenue.

The residents and merchants have organized a corporation which will serve as the planning body representing the neighborhood in its fight. The commissioners voted to donate \$1,000 to the newly formed corporation to help meet legal expenses.

\*\*\*

ANC 3B has voted to present the Inter-ANC Com-

(Please turn to page 31)

## North Cleveland Park - Forest Hills

### ANC 3F

2955 Upton Street NW  
Room B-101  
Washington, DC 20008

ANC 3F has been contacted by the law firm of Wilkes, Artis, Hedrick and Lane advising that it has petitioned the Zoning Commission to consider a Map Amendment of the east side of Connecticut Avenue, N.W., from Van Ness to Tilden Streets, to change the zoning from R-5-C to C-2-B. Presently, this area is composed of town houses and low-rise apartment buildings, some of which are in commercial use. It is unclear to ANC 3F what the intended use would be for the newly zoned property. One of the arguments made by the law firm is that C-2-B zoning is consistent with the surrounding area. A public hearing has been requested of the Zoning Commission on this matter. In order for ANC 3F to properly respond to this request and to fully represent our constituency, ANC 3F is interested in receiving citizen comments on this proposed zoning change. Please contact ANC 3F immediately by writing to 3624 Porter Street, N.W., D.C. 20016, or call 362-6120.

### Open House at Murch Elementary School

On Wednesday, November 17, 1982, Murch Elementary School, located at 36th and Davenport Streets, N.W., will hold an open house. The event will begin at 9 A.M. Staff and parents will have the opportunity to meet, and parents can visit classrooms. For further information, please call Dorothy Avery at 363-3695 or Polly Dean at 363-9139.

On September 22, 1982, the Department of Transportation (D.O.T.) conducted a community meeting to discuss possible bus routes to and from Connecticut Avenue, N.W., and the Kennedy Center.

Interestingly enough, the map which showed possible routing excluded Connecticut Avenue north of Dupont Circle! There was a consensus of area residents that public transportation service to the Kennedy Center from Connecticut Avenue should involve no more than one transfer, should take no longer than about 40 minutes door-to-door, should run Monday through Wednesday from 4 P.M. to midnight and Thursday through Sunday from noon to midnight, and should arrive at about 15 minute intervals.

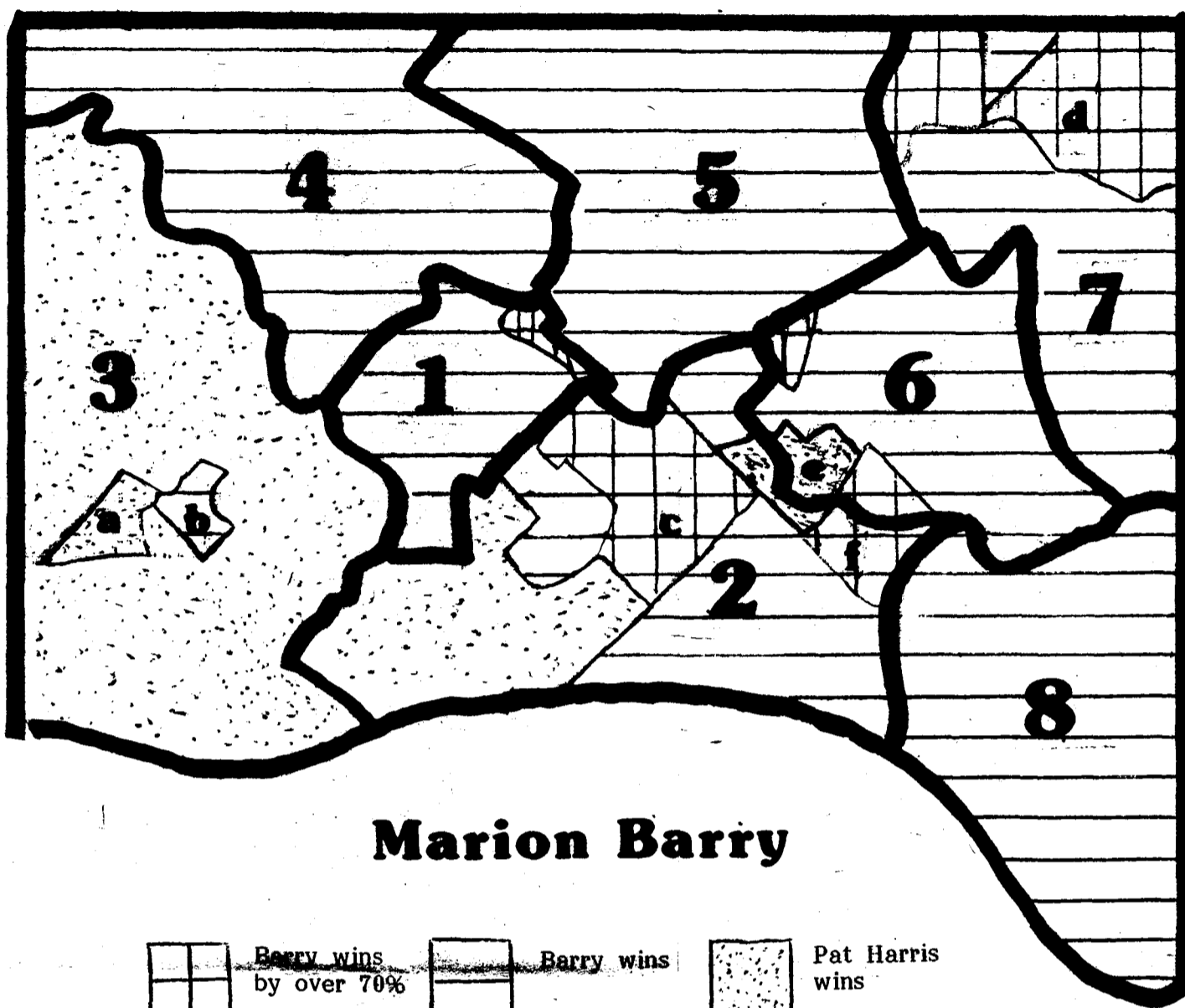
While area residents wanted service from Connecticut and Calvert through Rock Creek Park to the Kennedy Center (or down Connecticut to Florida Avenue to 23rd Street to New Hampshire Avenue to the Center), Dick Dawson at WMATA kept insisting that these options were impossible given (1) the high cost of such premium service, (2) the lack of equipment owned by METRO which would be currently allowed to travel on the parkway, and (3) the unlikelihood of getting quick Congressional approval of legislation that would allow buses in the park.

If new service to and from the Kennedy Center and upper Connecticut Avenue is implemented, it will start early, 1983.

ANC 3F has taken the following actions:

- (1) Gone on public record as opposing the proposed expansion of the Exxon station, at Connecticut and Nebraska Avenues, N.W.; and
- (2) Co-funded, along with other area ANCs, the proposal for mathematically gifted seventh graders at Alice Deal Junior High School.

# 1982 PRIMARY: HOW THEY DID IT



Marion Barry took all the precincts in Wards 1, 4, 5, 7, and 8. He scored best (over 70%) parts of downtown (c), NE Boundary (d), and the Capper Housing Project precinct (f). Pat Harris took all of Ward 3 with the exception of the McLean Gardens precinct (b). In AU Park she got 60% of the vote (a). She also took the main Capitol hill precincts. (e).

## Marion Barry



Barry wins  
by over 70%



Barry wins

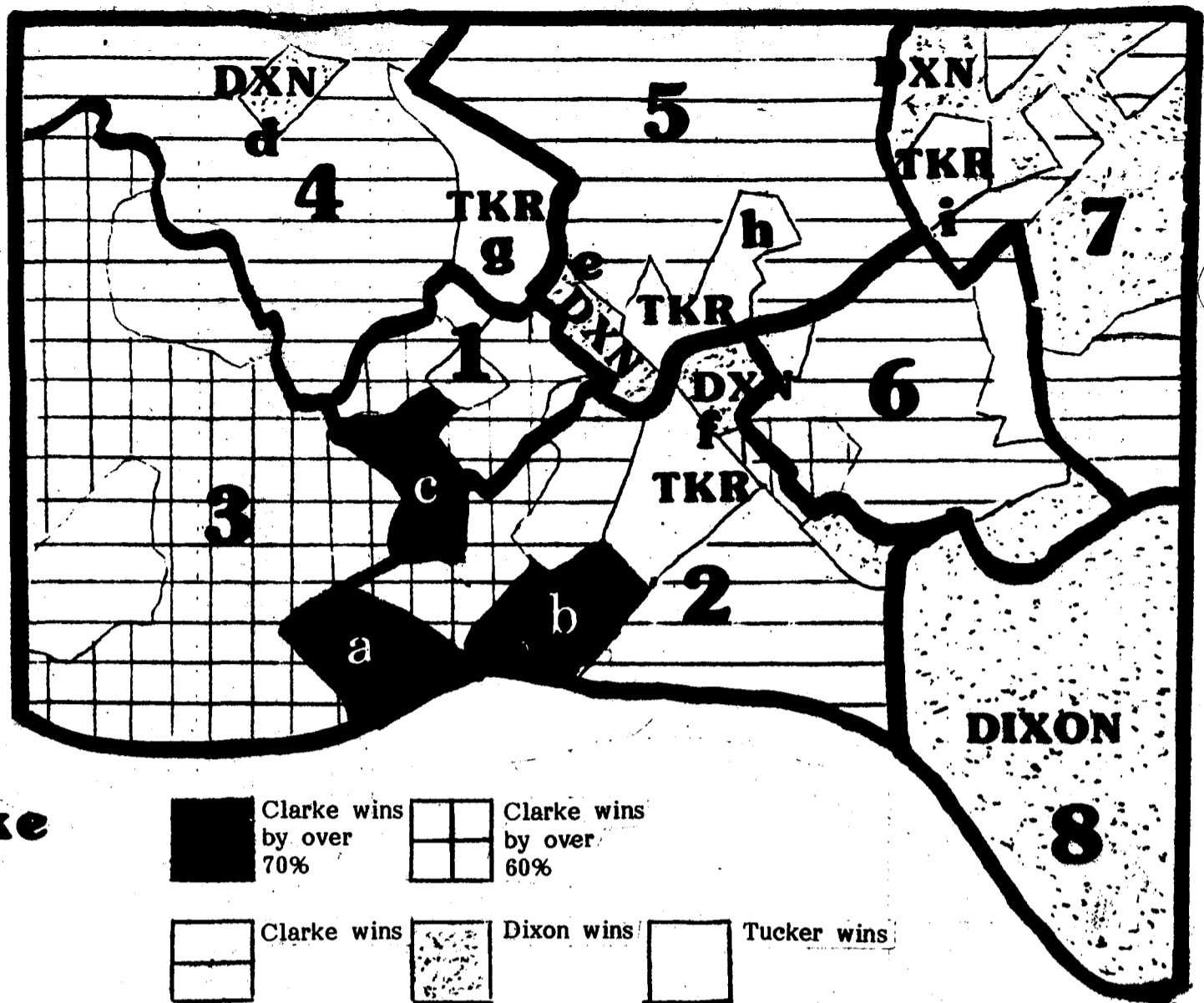


Pat Harris  
wins

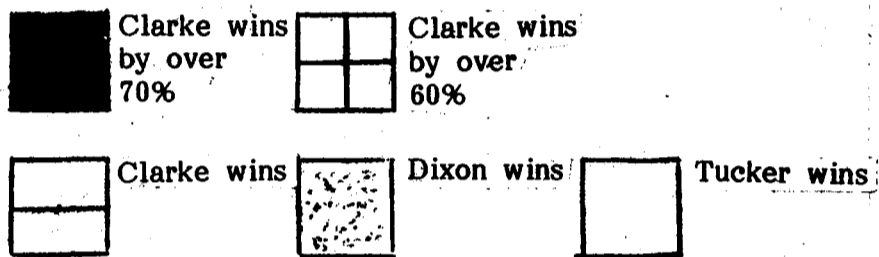
## Election Results

DEM DELEGATE TO HOUSE	137/137	DEM CTY COUNCIL AT-LARGE	137/137	REP COUNCILMEMBER WARD-3	35/ 18
WALTER E. FAUNTROY	87025 94.9	BETTY ANN KANE	54607 55.6	LOIS DEVECCHIO	2144 94.6
WRITE-IN	4599 5.0	BARBARA LETTS SIMMONS	30452 31.0	WRITE-IN	122 5.3
REP DELEGATE TO HOUSE	136/137	JOHNNY BARNES	12673 12.9	STH COUNCILMEMBER WARD-3	12/ 18
JOHN WEST	4007 92.9	WRITE-IN	437 .4	WRITE-IN	7 100.0
WRITE-IN	306 7.0	REP CTY COUNCIL AT-LARGE	136/137	DEM COUNCILMEMBER WARD-5	16/ 16
STH DELEGATE TO HOUSE	105/137	WRITE-IN	771 100.0	RICK LFE	1012 6.1
WRITE-IN	120 100.0	STH CTY COUNCIL AT-LARGE	105/137	BOB KING	1094 6.6
DEMOCRATIC MAYORS RACE	137/137	HILDA MASON	256 90.4	DOUGLAS MOORE	4199 25.6
PATRICIA ROBERTS HARRIS	39627 35.5	WRITE-IN	27 9.5	ARTISST ROBERT I.	4655 28.4
MARION S. BARRY	64747 58.0	INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 9	137/137	WILLIAM (BILL) SPAULDING	5383 32.8
CHARLENE DREW JARVIS	3235 2.8	YES	82238 72.2	WRITE-IN	43 .2
JOHN RAY	3862 3.4	NO	31579 27.7	REP COUNCILMEMBER WARD-5	16/ 16
WRITE-IN	143 .1	DEM COUNCILMEMBER WARD-1	17/ 17	W. RONALD EVANS	269 84.3
REPUBLICAN MAYORS RACE	136/137	GLENN L. REITZE	296 2.9	WRITE-IN	50 15.6
JAMES CHAMPAGNE	1815 34.5	REUBEN LEWIS	192 1.8	STH COUNCILMEMBER WARD-5	16/ 16
E. BROOKE LEE	2834 53.8	CALVIN O. WINGFIELD	197 1.9	WRITE-IN	31 100.0
WRITE-IN	610 11.5	MARIE MANIKIAN	4268 42.1	DEM COUNCILMEMBER WARD-6	17/ 17
STATENOOD MAYORS RACE	105/137	FRANK SMITH	5111 50.4	JOHN E. WARREN	4694 37.4
WRITE-IN	179 100.0	WRITE-IN	60 .5	NADINE P. WINTER	7777 62.1
DEM CTY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN	137/137	REP COUNCILMEMBER WARD-1	17/ 17	WRITE-IN	48 .3
DAVID A. 'DAVE' CLARKE	48222 44.4	JACOB SHERRILL, JR.	80 17.3	REP COUNCILMEMBER WARD-6	17/ 17
ARRINGTON DIXON	30996 28.5	NANCY LOU SHIA	101 21.9	WRITE-IN	92 100.0
STERLING TUCKER	29087 26.7	CHARLES O. FISHER	244 53.0	STH COUNCILMEMBER WARD-6	13/ 17
WRITE-IN	243 .2	WRITE-IN	35 7.6	WRITE-IN	21 100.0
REP CTY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN	136/137	STH COUNCILMEMBER WARD-1	15/ 17	WRITE-IN	21 100.0
WRITE-IN	1141 100.0	WRITE-IN	18 100.0	DEM COUNCILMEMBER WARD-3	16/ 18
STH CTY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN	105/137	MARK FLOTKIN	2356 18.0	WRITE-IN	1
WRITE-IN	140 100.0	POLLY SHACKLETON	6174 47.3	WRITE-IN	1
		RUTH BYRON	4485 34.3	WRITE-IN	1
		WRITE-IN	23 .1	WRITE-IN	1

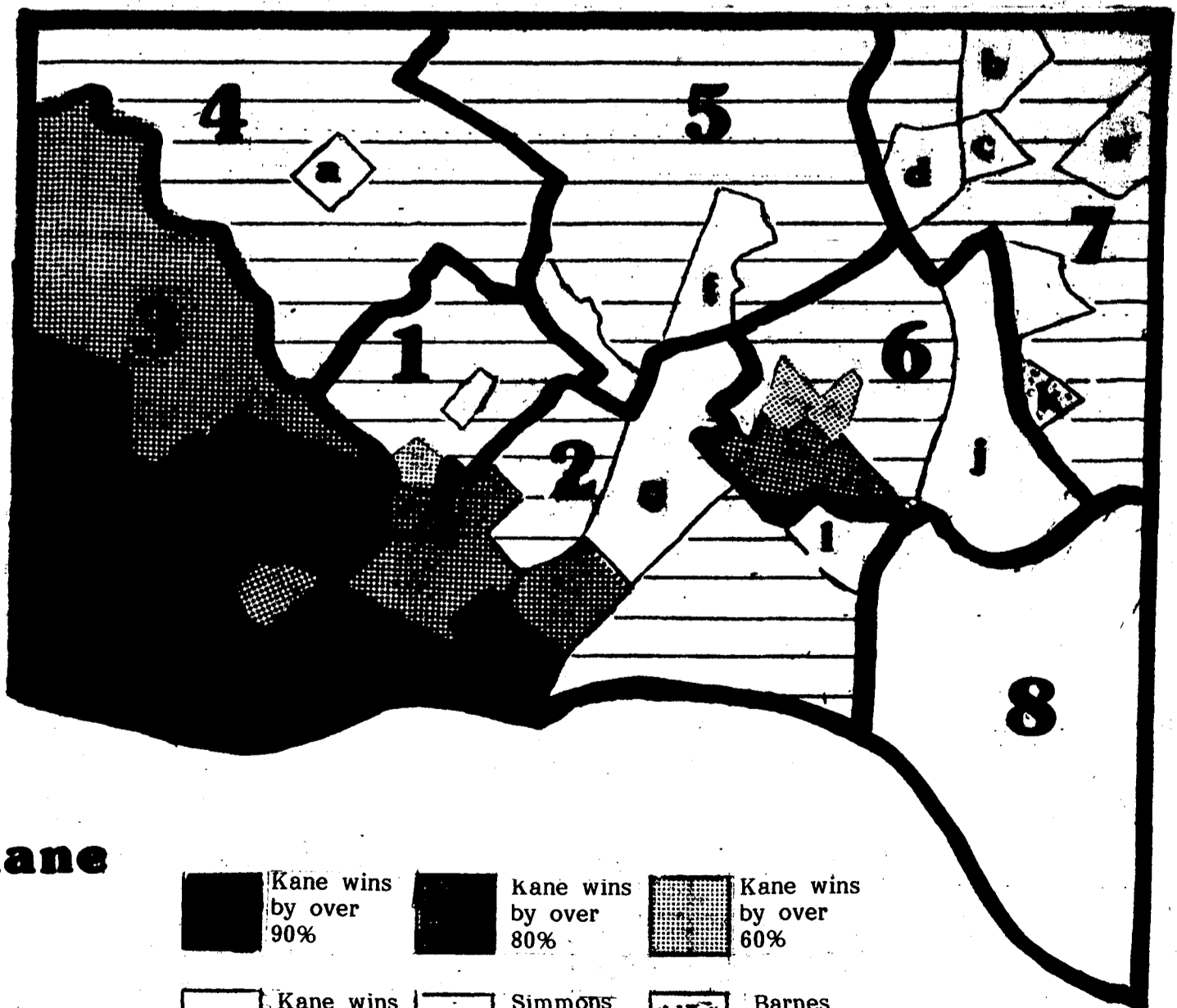
Dave Clarke put his winning vote together in six out of the city's eight wards, combined with 60%+ votes in much of Wards 1 and 3 and 70%+ votes in a number of precincts. Big Clarke territory included Georgetown (a), West End and Foggy Bottom (b) Kalorama and Adams Morgan (c). Arrington Dixon's major support came from east of the river ( he took all of Ward 8) and from scattered precincts in Brightwood (d), Bloomingdale (e), and Stanton Park (f). Sterling Tucker got major support from the Soldiers Home (g), Brentwood, Ivy City, Trinidad (h) and Central NE (i).



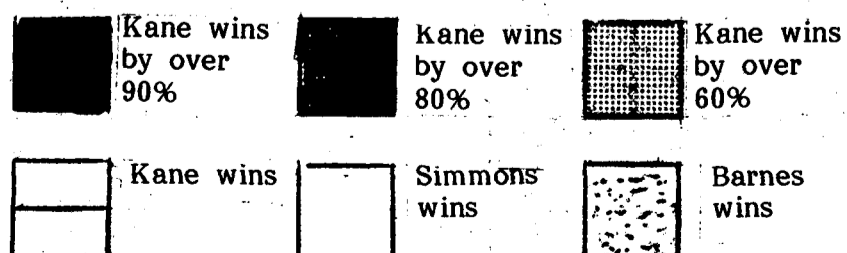
## Dave Clarke



Betty Ann Kane pulled well except east of the river where Barbara Simmons took Ward 8 and part of Ward 7. Kane more than compensated for this with huge majorities in Ward 3, the West end and Capitol Hill. She took much of Ward 3 by over 90%. Simmons won, in addition to Ward 8, scattered precincts in Brightwood Park (a), Deanwood (b), Central NE (d), Marshall Hgts (e), Ivy City-Trinidad (f), downtown-Logan Circle-Stanton Park (g), Anacostia(j) & Arthur Capper (l). Barnes took only one precinct in Good Hope (k).



## Betty Ann Kane





## Roses & Thorns

**ROSES TO CAROLINE SMITH**, the city's director of finance and revenue, who goes back to private practice November 12. If all of Mayor Barry's appointments were as good as Smith, he wouldn't have any problems.

**THORNS TO MARION BARRY** for attempting to oust Ted/Gay as chair of the local Democratic Committee. Gay's offense, apparently, is that he did just what he should have done: he kept the committee neutral in the recent primary. Gay personally endorsed Barry but that's not good enough for those at city hall who want it all.

**THORNS TO DON'T TEAR IT DOWN** which actually listed Oliver T. Carr Jr. as one of the prominent sponsors of its preservation auction. Those fighting to save Rhodes Tavern are not amused.

**ROSES TO PRECINCTS 45, 47, 57, 60, 64 and 70** for proving that it is possible to have bellweather

precincts in DC. These precincts (all in Ward Four except for 70) each not only voted for the winner in the three big races in September, but came within five percentage points of the citywide total in each. Precinct 70, in Ward Five, actually came within 1 1/2% of the city wide totals.

**THORNS TO THE MAYOR AND THE BOARD OF TRADE** for their continued efforts to harrass local vendors. There are more than 5000 vendors out on the streets of DC, helping the city's economy and providing jobs for the otherwise unemployed. In fact, this example of entrepreneurship has provided as many jobs as Mayor Barry's vaunted convention center — and it didn't cost \$100,000,000. The mayor's people are pushing for much higher fees for vendors, in no small part due to the pressure of the Board of Trade.

**THORNS TO POLICE CHIEF TURNER** for proposing that old lawnmower chestnut — a youth curfew from 11 pm to 5 am. Under Turner's plan, any person under the age of 18 could be stopped and questioned by police during these hours. If they couldn't come up with a "valid reason" for being out, they could be taken in for questioning and their parents could be penalized. This proposal, aside from being probably unconstitutional, would subject law-abiding youths to a form of house arrest, would be difficult to enforce, and would rightfully increase youth hostility towards the police. It would also create a whole new class of criminals — curfew violators — something this city doesn't need.

## ARCHIPARSE

ASKING ABOUT CLASSROOM BUILDINGS THAT TEACH

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS COME IN EVERY STYLE — GEORGIAN, VICTORIAN, QUASI-BAROQUE, CHEAP & MEAN, EVEN — MODERN...



WHAT ALL THESE BUILDINGS HAVE IN COMMON — DESPITE DIFFERENCES IN STYLE — IS THAT THEY ARE ALL **CLOSED BUILDINGS**...



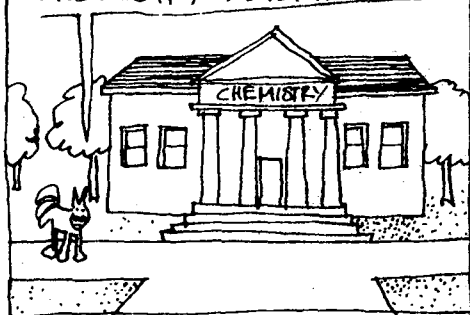
CHEMISTS MIGHT DISCOVER SOMETHING IMPORTANT, BUT PEOPLE PASSING BY OUTSIDE WILL **NEVER KNOW**...

LOOK — GREEN FUMES!

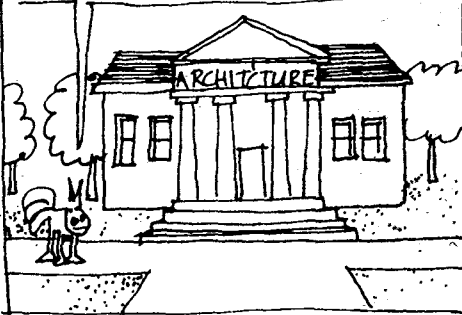
YEAH — LET'S GO FOR PINK!



BECAUSE THE CHEMISTS — & THEIR WORK ON ENERGY & ON THE ENVIRONMENT & ON FUMES — ARE ALL **HIDDEN AWAY** IN CHEMISTRY BUILDINGS...



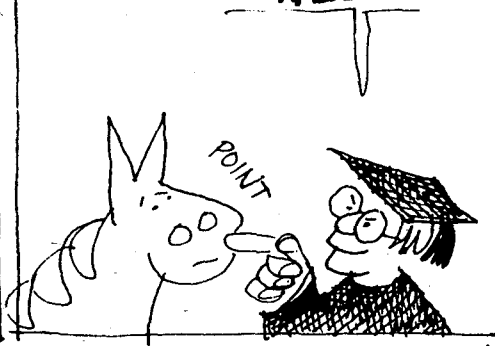
& ARCHITECTS — & THEIR WORK ON CITIES & ON LIGHT & ON SPACE — ARE ALL **HIDDEN AWAY** IN ARCHITECTURE BUILDINGS...



CLASSROOM BUILDINGS COULD BE DESIGNED MORE LIKE SHOPS IN AN ARCADE, SO THEY WOULD HAVE **WIDE DISPLAY WINDOWS & INFORMATIVE EXHIBITS**...



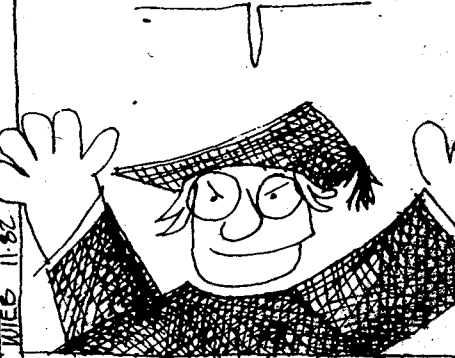
SEE HERE, HORSE — HARVARD HAS SUCH A BUILDING & IT'S CALLED **CARPENTER HALL**...



PEOPLE CAN WALK RIGHT UP & **THROUGH** A GAP IN THIS BUILDING...



WHERE THEY CAN WATCH PAINTERS & SCULPTORS & DESIGNERS **AT WORK**...



THUS, YOUR COMPLAINTS ABOUT **CLOSED BUILDINGS** STAND GENERALLY CORRECTED... BUT CARPENTER WAS PUT UP 20 YEARS AGO & GEORGETOWN & HARVARD & ALL THE OTHERS...



HAVEN'T PUT UP ANOTHER **OPEN BUILDING** SINCE THEN THAT LETS PEOPLE **LEARN** JUST BY LOOKING IN...



WE MUSTN'T FORGET THAT STUDENTS **PAY** TO GO TO **CLASSES**, SO NOW MUST WE



#### MAYOR NOW TALKING AUSTERITY

Despite a projected surplus in this year's financial report, the mayor has imposed tight controls on city spending in anticipation of worse times ahead. Said Barry, "There's no way the District of Columbia can escape this recession." City Council finance and revenue chair John Wilson was quoted in the Post as saying of Barry, "I told y'all six months ago he was the only person in America who wasn't aware we were in a recession." Said Phil Dearborn, former financial advisor to the mayor, "There's no question in my mind that things have been developing not as well as the mayor hoped they would."

#### JUDGE PERMITS DOUBLING-UP OF PRISONERS

Judge William Bryant has allowed the DC Jail to double-up prisoners but required that additional guards be stationed in doubled-up areas and that the inmates being doubled-up be rotated. Bryant criticized the practice of doubling up but said that he would go along with the Department of Corrections, which had requested the move, as the "lesser evil" compared with the makeshift quarters — such as gyms and dayrooms, where inmates are currently being housed. The DC Jail is currently operating 38% above capacity, a situation that has largely developed in the last year.

#### MCLEAN GARDENS

In September, the Zoning Commission unanimously approved a planned unit development for McLean Gardens. Community reaction had been mixed. ANC 3C proposed 21 modifications. Other groups raised concerns such as height of buildings, traffic and parking. These were largely rejected by the commission.

This PUD will make a dramatic change in streetscape of Wisconsin Avenue and is one of the largest such developments in the city. Here are some of the key elements:

- 625 residential units in a variety of forms ranging from walk-up apartments to nine-story high-rise buildings.
- 40,000 square feet of retail and office space.
- A community center area, occupying 68,000 square feet of land, which will include an swimming pool and health club.
- Nearly 800 parking spaces, some underground and some behind the existing stone wall on Wisconsin Avenue. The stone wall would be preserved and a similar one would be constructed along Idaho Avenue.

#### DC ACCUSED ON WELFARE

Neighborhood Legal Services has gone to court to ask that the District be found in contempt of yet another court order. This time the case centers on the alleged failure of the city to make timely welfare payments and to keep up-to-date lists of welfare recipients. NLS charges that in

August more than 400 persons received late welfare checks and that each month the city issues approximately \$1 million in erroneous checks for the wrong amount or to the wrong person.

#### METERED PARKING FOR MOTORCYCLES

The Department of Transportation has proposed establishing metered parking for motorcycles and mo-peds. The meters would cost 25 cents for three hours and would be set up in several downtown locations.

#### GAO CRITICIZES COLLECTIONS

The General Accounting Office says that three DC agencies need to take "timely, orceful and persistent action" to collect \$75 million in delinquent accounts. The District reported that accounts receivable amounted to \$269 milion on September 30, 1980, and that about 48 percent was not collectible. The three agencies mentioned were Human Services, Transportation and Environmental Services.

#### CCNV GETS NEW HOME

The Community for Creative Non-Violence has moved to a new location at 632 G NW. The center is providing meals for the homeless, sometimes as many as 500, and — after renovation, the building will also have facilities for laundry and showers.

#### RESTAURANT DISCRIMINATION CASE

The owners of a former DC nightclub, the Appletree, have agreed to pay two black men \$125,000 in an out-of-court settlement of a suit in which the pair had accused Appletree of racial discrimination.

#### POT INITIATIVE SET TO GO

The Board of Elections has approved a proposed initiative that would make it legal to use and cultivate marijuana here. Supporters have about six months to get the required 16,000 signatures on the initiative petition. A 1980 attempt to get a similar initiative on the ballot failed for insufficient petition signatures.

#### INSURANCE DEPARTMENT CUTS GEICO INCREASE

The DC Department of Insurance has ordered Government Employees Insurance Company to reduce a proposed increase in local rates by more than a half. The department called the increase "excessive." GEICO called the action "regulatory interference in the marketplace" and said it would go to court.

#### BLACK STUDENT FUND FAIR

The Black Student Fund will host its Annual School Fair on November 14 at Gonzaga High School from 330 pm to 630 pm. The fair offers an opportunity for black children and their parents to learn about private school opportunities and scholarships. Representatives from area schools will be on hand. There is no admission charge.

#### MEETING ON DOWNTOWN PLAN

The Office of Planning Development will hold a public meeting to discuss the proposed Downtown DC Plan recommendations at the monthly meeting of Neighborhood Commission 2C at 730 pm, November 16, in the council chambers. Comments about the proposed plan should be submitted by November 30 to James O. Gibson, Assistant City Administrator for Planning and Development, Room 401, District Building, DC 20004.

#### AUDITOR FINDS FAULT AT UDC

The DC Auditor has found that UDC's athletic department failed to pay more than \$105,000 in grant-in-aid tuition payments to athletes, has not accounted properly for several thousands dollars worth of ticket sales, and failed to account correctly in keeping other records.

#### HUMANITIES COUNCIL GRANTS

At its recent funding session, the DC Community Humanities Council made grants to the following organizations:

- Folger Shakespeare Library for workshops and Shakespeare Festivals.

## CITY DESK Cont'd

- Neighborhood Planning Councils II and III to complete a student-written popular history of DC
- DC Public Library for extra copies of "Miles of Smiles," a DCCHC-funded film about sleeping car porters.
- Institute for Contemporary Culture for a discussion series on the works of Gabriel Garcia Marquez.
- George Washington University for further work on a videotape production on the fight against slavery in DC.

- WETA for a series of programs on black scholars from DC.
  - Skye Pictures for research and development funds for a film on conflict resolution.
  - Institute for District Affairs for a conference on cable TV in DC.
- The council also provided funds for research and development on a film on Southwest Washington.

## Improving DC's Bikeways

The Washington Area Bicyclist Assn. has published a list of suggested traffic and facility improvements in the metropolitan area which they say will improve cycling safety and accessibility and increase the number of bikers.

Number one on the list of problem spots is Memorial Bridge, used by hundreds of daily bike commuters and thousands of weekend recreational riders. Key Bridge, the Rock Creek Bikeway, the Wilson Bridge, Virginia's Route 50, Maryland's Little Falls Bikeway, over a dozen streets downtown, and numerous other routes were cited by the cyclists as needing specific improvements.

Put together over a six-month period, the list of improvements—23 in Maryland, 21 in the District and 12 in Virginia—is being sent to all the region's bicycle coordinators and public works planners.

"It's no longer enough for transportation planners to pay lip service to the health, environmental and energy-conserving benefits of bicycling," said Peter Harnik, chair of WABA's Facilities Committee. "We are asking the area governments and the National Park Service to budget some real dollars to deal with the real problems, bottlenecks, impediments and hurdles that affect bicyclists almost every time they ride to work or for fun."

Harnik cited the bridge problems as typical. "Memorial Bridge has an excellent bike lane because it has nice wide sidewalks. However, to get to it from Arlington you have to run across a continuous flow of fast traffic on the Parkway.

"Conversely," he continued, "there's the problem with Key Bridge. It's relatively easy to get to but has extremely narrow sidewalks, hazardous protrusions from signs and railings, large numbers of pedestrians, and a dangerous auto exit ramp to Whitehurst Freeway."

For Memorial Bridge WABA is recommending either an underpass under Washington Boulevard or a bicyclist-activated traffic signal at Memorial Circle. For Key Bridge, which is scheduled to be redecked in 1984, the association proposes that one of the six auto lanes be converted into two one-way bike lanes and that the sidewalks be returned to pedestrian use only.

Not all the association's proposals are as complex or expensive. Some entail merely fixing potholes, changing lane widths on heavily used bicycling streets, adding curb cuts (wheelchair ramps), replacing dangerous sewer grates or revamping traffic signals.

Other suggestions include designating a grid of downtown streets with painted bike lanes, installing better signs in the Lincoln Memorial area, building a connection from Rosslyn to Theodore Roosevelt Island and the Roosevelt Bridge, adding a bike bridge at the Lake Barcroft Dam, constructing a bike lane on the Wilson Bridge, finishing the Rock Creek Bikeway in Maryland, constructing bike routes across Northwest Branch, repaving the bike lanes along Greenbelt Road and building a bike path alongside Piney Branch Road in Maryland.

1. Create a North-South-East-West grid of streets with Class II (painted) bike lanes downtown, consisting of:
  - a. (Northbound) 18th St. NW from Constitution Ave. to Massachusetts Ave.
  - b. (Southbound) 19th St. NW from Dupont Circle to Constitution Ave.
  - c. (Eastbound) "I" Street NW from New Hampshire Ave. to 11th St. NW, south on 11th to "H" St., and east on "H" St. NW/NE to Maryland Ave. NE.
  - d. (Westbound) "H" St. NE from Maryland Ave. NE to Virginia Ave. NW.
2. Create a Class II (painted) bike lane in both directions on Pennsylvania Ave. from Rock Creek to the Anacostia River.
3. Create a Class II (painted) bike lane in both directions on Columbia Rd. from Connecticut Ave. to 16th St. and on Mt. Pleasant St. from Harvard St. to Park Rd.
4. When Key Bridge is redecked (scheduled for 1984), convert one of the six auto lanes into two one-way bike lanes, and restore sidewalks to pedestrians.
5. Restripe the right side curb lanes to 13½ feet on 15th St. NW from "I" St. to Florida Ave. and on 17th St. NW from Florida Ave. to "K" St. On 17th St. from "K" to "I," eliminate parking and create a Class II (painted) bike lane.
6. Add curb cuts along 16th St. NW (both sides) from Florida Ave. to the Maryland line. Limit bicycle speed on sidewalk to 8 mph.
7. Restripe the bike lane (westbound direction) on Ellington (Calvert St.) Bridge so that it is three feet away from the gutter.
8. Create a bike-only connector from the Glover Park/Upper Georgetown area to Cleveland Park and downtown by paving the dirt "Whitehaven Path" between Whitehaven Parkway (near Wisconsin Ave.) and Whitehaven St. (near Massachusetts Ave. and Observatory Circle).
9. Change the traffic light at 18th St. and Constitution Ave. NW to permit a crossing of Constitution Ave. by bicyclists and pedestrians.
10. Repair road surfaces on the following streets (all NW unless noted):
  - "M" between 14th and 16th
  - 17th between Connecticut and Massachusetts
  - Pennsylvania from Washington Circle to the Capitol
  - "K" between 16th and 22nd
  - 14th between "F" and Park Rd.
  - 18th from Pennsylvania to Adams Mill Rd.
  - Rhode Island from Scott Circle to the Maryland line
  - 15th from "I" to Massachusetts
  - Sousa Bridge
  - 20th from "K" to "M" and from Massachusetts to Connecticut
  - Connecticut (southbound) from Leroy Pl. to Bancroft Pl.
  - Adams Mill Rd. from 18th to Harvard
  - Piney Branch Rd. from 13th to Blair
  - Maryland Ave. NE from 3rd NE to Benning Rd.
  - the sidewalks on the Massachusetts Ave. Bridge over Rock Creek
  - Park Rd. from Piney Branch Pkwy to Beach Drive
  - Canal Rd. from Key Bridge to Foxhall Rd.
  - New Hampshire Ave. from Washington Circle to 16th St.
11. Replace dangerous sewer grates at:
  - N St. near Wisconsin Ave.
  - the area around Maine Ave and the Southwest Freeway
  - Beach Drive
  - 15th St. near Independence Ave. (on the Mall)
12. As a policy, no two-way street less than 35 feet wide should be striped for three lanes. Arterial streets of nearly but not quite this width should be striped for two car lanes and two bike lanes, with parking banned. Among streets affected by this would be 18th Street NW between "N" and "S", Park Rd NW between Walbridge Pl and Mt. Pleasant St., and 5th St. NW from Grant Circle to Blair Rd.
13. Build a bicycle bridge or widen the auto bridge sidewalk across Rock Creek just south of the Zoo tunnel on Beach Drive.
14. Construct a connection from Calvert and 24th Sts. to the Rock Creek Bikeway.
15. Construct a connection from the Porter St/Klingle Rd "cloverleaf" to the Rock Creek Bikeway.
16. Construct a connection from Massachusetts Ave to the Rock Creek Bikeway.
17. Erect usable directional signs for the bike paths around the Mall, particularly in the Lincoln Memorial area.
18. Remove the rock outcrop on the Rock Creek Bikeway near "N" St.
19. Move the auto stop signs back a few feet on all roads entering Rock Creek Parkway and crossing the Rock Creek Bikeway, so that stopped cars do not block the path.
20. Close Beach Drive from Broad Branch Rd. to Joyce Rd.; from Picnic Grove 6 to Picnic Grove 8; from Picnic Grove 10 to Wise Rd; and from West Beach Drive to the Maryland line, allowing no through auto traffic and stimulating bicycle commuting and recreation.

A 20 cents hotel occupancy tax increase went into effect Oct. 1. The twenty cents increase is expected to generate approximately \$900,000 a year in additional revenue. Much of this will be used to promote tourism through the Washington Convention and Visitors Association, the Mayor's Committee to Promote Washington, D.C., and the Washington Convention Center.

Jerome W. Page, president of the Washington Urban League has resigned, effective January 1. Page has served as president since August, 1979. Page cited personal reasons for his decision.

The city has started a new building permit application process, designed to benefit both home owners and builders, reduce District costs, and improve the building permit process.

Under the new procedures, applicants will be able to complete just one form for several types of permits. The previous 29 different forms have been replaced with four simplified and improved forms. Time required to obtain building plans will be reduced and other steps will be taken to increase convenience for home owners and builders. In addition, District engineers will be able to spend more time on reviewing building plans and less on paperwork.

A computer-based data system, the Washington Clearinghouse, is now available to assist national and local corporations and foundations in making decisions regarding their charitable contributions. The Community Foundation of Greater Washington has developed this service to help to fill the vacuum of objective information about the thousands of non-profit organizations in the Washington metropolitan area.

The Washington Clearinghouse's data base will include approximately 2500 non-profit organizations which are located in and which serve persons in the metropolitan region, as well as proposals which these groups develop. The Bureau of Social Science Research, a nationally known, independent, survey research organization with offices in Washington, D.C. is supervising data collection for the Washington Clearinghouse.

The D.C. Public Service Commission is considering the feasibility of using time-of-day electricity rates and other adjustable rates in the District.

Federal law requires that local or state regulatory commissions determine whether time of day rates, load management techniques and interruptible rates are appropriate for implementation by local electric companies in their jurisdictions.

Time-of-day rates charge the customer varying rates for electricity consumption according to the times of day, with higher charges at time of peak use. These are

at George Washington University and the Cleveland Park Library. For more information please call 797-0855 or 332-7504.

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The Pain and Physical Symptom Treatment Program at The George Washington University Medical Center treats patients who suffer from chronic pain that is unresponsive to or unsuitable for other medical or surgical treatment.

"We don't promise to take people's pain away," explains Robert Hendren, D.O., the psychiatrist who is director of the program. "The major purpose of the program is to help people resume active lives in spite of their pain." Info: 676-3181.

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Because of severe budget cuts, Protection for Elderly People, an agency which provides free legal advice to District of Columbia residents 55 or older and living on a limited income, has closed its 14th St., N.W., office and divided its operations between two new locations: George Washington University Institute of Law and Aging, 2000 L St., N.W., Suite 307 (676-5790); and Columbia Senior Center, 4121 13th St., N.W. (829-4408).

In addition to handling legal cases, PEP—an outreach branch of GW's Institute of Law and Aging—has developed checklists to determine whether its clients are receiving all the government benefits to which they are entitled. PEP also provides trained personnel to help prepare income tax returns.

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## Neighborhood News cont'd

mittee/Mini Commission on Aging with a donation of \$50.00.

The Commissioners strongly supported the Mini Commission's work in vocalizing and assisting the needs of the elderly on such projects as housing, transportation, nutrition and employment. The Commissioners commended the devoted efforts of Marguerite Gilmore and Ruth Haugen in sensitizing Ward 3 to the needs of our senior citizens.

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## West of the Park

The following Woodrow Wilson High School students have been named semi-finalists in the National Merit Scholarship program: Alan Cheilek, Samuel Frumkin, Cameron Greider, Catherine Teare, and Toby Wheelock. These students, as well as Capitol Page School student Julie Schrager, are among 15,000 semi-finalists nationwide who will compete for approximately 5000 college scholarships under the National Merit program. The scholarships will be awarded this spring.

Commended scholars at Wilson High School, among 35,000 nationwide who scored among the top 5% of all participants who took the test, were: Shivaun Briley, Heidi Lee Burch, Tobi Burch, Edward Clift, Elizabeth Eliasson, Tanya Fedoruk, Morgan Fleisig, Alison Hyslop, Regina Lauderdale, Joshua LeCar, Richard Lesser, Peter Lynn, Michael Miovic, Luise Moskowitz, Bill Panagoulas, and David Risser.

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## West End

The West End-Foggy Bottom Neighborhood Commission is considering an application for two historic districts. One would be in the West End, between 25th and 26th and M and K and the other would be in Foggy Bottom bounded by 24th & 27th and New Hampshire Ave.

**FREE  
PARKING**

The Reading Center of GWU offers courses on the improvement of reading this fall. There will also be a course on oral communications on the job. Info: 676-6286.

§

Free weekly introductory classes in Meditation and the Inner Life will be offered in a four class series each month by the Sri Chinmoy Centre of Washington, D.C.

## Free Flu Shots

Free flu shots are now available at the following DC health centers between 815 am and 445 pm. Info: Betty Murray, 576-7134.

Adams Morgan Clinic  
2200 Champlain Street, N.W.  
673-7720

Anacostia  
1328 W Street, S.E.  
767-7883

Arthur Capper  
601 L Street, S.E.  
724-8644

Benning Heights  
Benning Road and C Street, S.E.  
767-7566

Woodridge  
3012 18th Street, N.E.  
576-6654

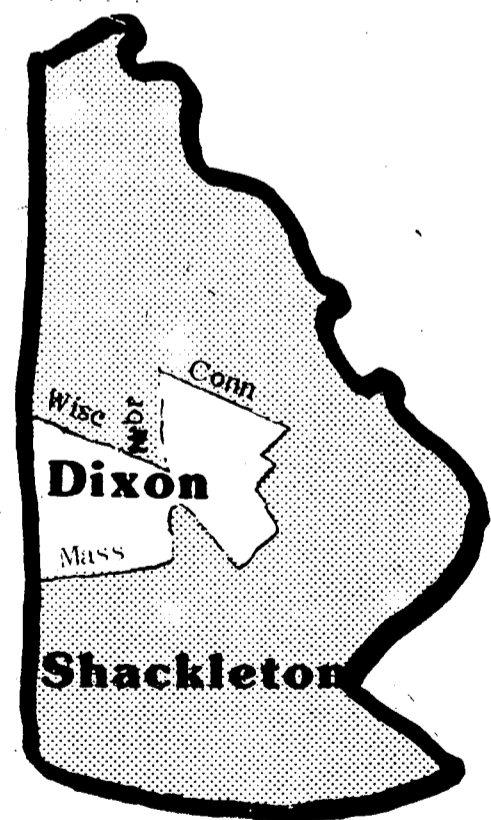
Center #17  
702 15th Street, N.E.  
727-0395

Center #18  
4130 Hunt Place, N.E.  
727-0523

Congress Heights  
3855 8th Street, S.E.  
767-7876

Southwest Health Center  
850 Delaware Avenue, S.E.  
727-3611

Walker Jones  
1st and L Streets, N.W.  
724-4375



This chart shows how Polly Shackleton and Ruth Dixon split up Ward III in the September Democratic primary for ward council. Shackleton won the ward easily against Dixon and Mark Plotkin, but Dixon took precincts that covered parts of AU Park, McLean Gardens and N. Cleveland Park.

designed to provide incentives for customers to use appliances during non-peak periods when they can. Large commercial electric companies in the District are presently on time-of-day rates. The PSC will consider the expansion of time-of-day rates to residential customers.

Load management techniques allow an electric company to control the electrical loads of certain customers in exchange for special rate treatment. This technique would allow PEPCO to control certain electrical appliances such as air conditioners and water heaters during certain hours of the day, and would encourage residential customers to use these appliances when the rates are lowest.

Interruptible rates call for an agreement between a high volume energy user and the electric company to curtail service during periods of peak usage in exchange for special rate treatment.

The D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development has sent letters to more than 280 landlords to remind them to get heating and hot water equipment in good repair for the cold weather season.

The letters were sent to landlords about whom heating or hot water complaints have been received in the past.

District law requires that landlords provide heat to homes and apartments adequate to maintain a temperature of at least 68 degrees from 6:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. and at least 65 degrees during the night, regardless of the time of year. There is no date for turning heat on or off in the District. Tenants with complaints about heat or hot water may call 535-1466.

A new program to compensate victims of violent crime has started in D.C.

Under the new legislation, the Victims of Violent Crime Program will provide compensation for monetary losses of up to \$25,000. Benefits will cover loss of earnings and economic support, medical and funeral expenses, and loss of services.

Benefits will be available to innocent victims of violent crime who are injured as a direct result of the crime or while trying to apprehend a criminal suspect or to their survivors. Benefits also are available if a citizen is injured or slain assisting a victim of violent crime or attempting to prevent a crime. Compensation will also be provided to persons dependent upon a victim's economic support or services and to persons responsible for a victim's economic support. Info: 724-3930.

## THE DC BOOKSHELF

**THE FIRST WOMEN WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENTS.** Tells the story of women who early broke the sex barrier to cover the capital city, beginning with Jane Grey Swisshelm who won a seat in the Senate Press Gallery in 1850 despite a warning from Vice President Fillmore that "the place would be very unpleasant for a lady." \$2.00

**ANCIENT WASHINGTON: American Indian Cultures of the Potomac Valley.** A rare and valuable anthropological look at the beginnings of Washington culture. \$3.00

**FOGGY BOTTOM 1800-1975.** A Study in the Uses of an Urban Neighborhood. From the old neighborhood of Hamburg to the struggles over urban renewal and the Kennedy Center. \$4.00

**GENTRIFICATION IN ADAMS MORGAN: Political and Commercial Consequences of Neighborhood Change.** Going behind the cliches to actually what happens in gentrification, author Jeffrey Henig has presented an important addition to the study of this phenomenon. \$5.00

**PUBLIC STREET ILLUMINATION IN WASHINGTON DC: An Illustrated History.** Any Washington buff will enjoy this book that tells the fascinating story of these mundane objects — the street lamps. \$3.50.

**THE JOB CATALOG: Where to find that creative job in Washington/Baltimore in the private sector.** Covers publishing and the fast news media, communications and public relations, tourism and advertising, entertainment and performing arts. Also: how to meet the people who do the hiring. Says the Washington Post: "A great buy. . .differs from most guides — focuses on where to conduct the search. \$8.

**LAW AND ORDER IN THE CAPITAL CITY: A History of the Washington Police 1800-1886.** An interesting perspective on crime and police work of an earlier time. \$3.00

**YESTERDAY'S WASHINGTON:** A photographic history of our city that all lovers of DC will want to have. 20% off at \$7.95.

**THIRTY-TWO PICTURE POST CARDS OF OLD WASHINGTON, DC.** Ready to mail. Rare photos reproduced as post cards in sepia. A different way to stay in touch. \$2.75.

**CAPTIVE CAPITAL:** Sam Smith tells the story of non-federal Washington. "Not only well worth reading, but it is the best book we are likely to read on Washington," Bryce Nelson of the LA Times. "An excellent gift," Bill Raspberry in the Washington Post. "Must Reading," Afro-American. "A joy to read," Robert Cassidy in the Chicago Tribune.

**NOW ONLY \$5 A COPY**

**BOSS SHEPHERD AND THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.** The fascinating tale of DC's only true political boss and perhaps the most controversial figure in local history. \$3.

**PUBLIC BANKING: A MODEL FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.** A monograph on how to alter the city's banking system by William Batko of the Institute for Local Self-Reliance. \$1.

**OLD WASHINGTON, DC, IN EARLY PHOTOGRAPHS: 1846-1932.** This is a truly fine collection of over 200 prints that provide an enduring record of this city. \$7.95.

**SECRET CITY:** Constance Green's history of black Washington. A highly readable trip through the city's black past. \$5.95

**JOHN WIEBENSON'S MAP OF WASHINGTON:** Done in Wieb's wry and pointed style, this map was drawn for the Bicentennial and is now available for 40% off at \$1.50.

**WASHINGTON:** Constance Green's Pulitzer Prize-winning comprehensive history of Washington is now available in paperback for only \$7.50. The basic book of DC history.

**A SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR WASHINGTON STUDIES AND DESCRIPTION OF MAJOR LOCAL COLLECTIONS:** This is a revised and enlarged edition of an outstanding bibliography of Washington materials that has been out of print for several years. It has been compiled and annotated by Perry G. Fisher of the Columbia Historical Society and Linda J. Lear of George Washington University. There are nearly 350 entries in the new edition, as well as updated descriptions of the major local collections of Washingtoniana. \$6.

**ALLEY LIFE IN WASHINGTON: Family, Community, Religion and Folklife in the City, 1850-1970.** By James Borchert. Borchert challenges conventional wisdom that the impact of the city led to the breakdown of migrants' social institutions. Borchert shows how Washington's alley dwellers adapted patterns that permitted continuity and survival in an often harsh environment. The male-headed nuclear family composed the fundamental unit in this urban subculture, but extended families, kinship networks, alley communities, and folk and religious traditions continued to provide coherence and to help alley dwellers cope with the rigors of everyday life. Forgoing outside assistance, these self-reliant people adjusted to their limited incomes and tiny quarters by using folk cures, remedies, and food sources, as well as by devising ingenious furniture. These crowded but isolated and homogeneous populations were able to shape close-knit communities, with social hierarchies which administered aid and comfort to the needy, but which also punished transgressors. This book is being sold by the Gazette at 20% off list price. \$14.80.

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